

COMMUNITY connections

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF NEW YORK
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Growing Souls, Doing Justice, and Being Bold in a Caring Community since 1825

Issue 58 • Feb./Mar. 2014

Plan to Attend the Annual Spring Retreat Friday, April 11 to Sunday, April 13 Register Now!

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This year we will be holding our Spring Retreat at Stony Point Center. Stony Point Center is more than a conference center, it is home to the Community of Living Traditions, a multifaith community dedicated to radical hospitality, non-violence and justice. The community has a deep appreciation for all faith traditions. They practice green living, and use locally grown food (much from their own garden) when possible for the healthy meals they serve. They also use fair trade coffee and chocolate. They work at being accessible to all. Stony Point Center is about one hour north of the city. We will offer a bus as in years past but they offer transportation from their local train station and bus stop if needed. We hope you'll join us. Pick up your registration form at the Welcome Table on Sundays or on the website. Please call if you need one sent by mail. Any questions? Contact Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education, 212-983-4988, ext. 23 or erosado@ccny.org.



HERE AT COMMUNITY

Members Out and About

Rachel Stone and **Bill Rothfarb** are thrilled to announce that "our son Evan Stone Rothfarb just got engaged to Deborah Kessler. He proposed to her just after midnight on January 1, 2014 while they were watching the New Year's Fireworks in Central Park...so romantic! Evan is a litigating attorney in New York City, and Deborah is Director of the Early Childhood Center at the Riverdale YM-YWHA. They met through mutual friends who thought they would be good together. We think they're good together, too."

Teresa Hommel has been writing short stories. In "Salmon Casserole," published in *Rosebud Magazine*, Howard faces a moral crisis when his wife bakes a salmon casserole for dinner. In "The Lure," published in literary journal *SLAB*, Dolly finds a way to lure her husband back from the dead. In "Dancing with Lennie," to be published in *Santa Fe Literary Review 2014*, a woman falls in love with Leonard Bernstein when she watches him conduct Beethoven's Fourth Symphony on Youtube, and discovers how to consummate her passion.

Teresa has been taking courses in writing and English literature at Hunter and Baruch Colleges. Under the "Senior Auditor" program, which is nationwide, people who are 60 or older can take two undergraduate courses per semester for \$80 as non-matriculated students. All of the colleges of the City University of New York participate in the program.

Joel Mandelbaum hopes that music lovers will set aside the afternoon of Sunday April 6th for a concert to take place in the Assembly Hall. It will be mostly choral music, and mostly his works, but music by other living composers will be included. The program is still in the planning stage, but will include items of interest to church members such as settings resulting from recent church auctions, and settings of poetry of special interest to UU members. More details will be presented in time.

BIRTHDAYS February 2014

1	Herbert Krampner
3	Dorothy James
3	Hana Dolgin
3	Anne Kelemen
4	Wade Hampton
4	Kyree Hurd
5	Leonore Tiefer
9	Etta Green Johnson
12	Judith Coppock Gex
14	Annea Berggren-Briggs
17	Julien Buron
19	Gerard Byrne
20	Eugene Flynn
22	Valerie Sarris
23	Rosetta Pervan
23	Modesto Matos
24	Marjorie Vai
27	Natalie Webb
28	Kathleen Polkabila

BIRTHDAYS March 2014

2	Jack Seiferth
	Michael Orzechowski
3	Gerard McCadden
	Jeff Ciolett
6	Jennifer Hampshire
7	John Quinn
15	Asfaha Hadera
18	Dorothy Francis
20	Nancy Ruckes
	Danielline Martinez
21	Marsha Peruo
22	Anthony Johnson
23	Felicia Sobel
28	Betty Vera
30	Delores Browne
	Joshua Douglass

Delegates Needed – UUA General Assembly and UU Metro District Annual Meeting

Voting members of Community Church are encouraged to apply to serve as delegates – General Assembly will be held in Providence, RI, June 25-29 and the UU Metro District Annual Meeting will be held in Morristown, NJ, May 2-3. Please pick up applications at the Welcome Table.

Holiday Greens Fund

Thank you:

Vera Lilly
Bruce Southworth
Kay Xanthkos
Odella Washington

Silent Choir Donations

Thank you:

Carol Apicella
Dorothy Francis
Joan Gilbert
Eiko Kayto
Marilyn Metheny Travis
Deborah Washburn
John Washburn
Odella Washington

HERE AT COMMUNITY

Resistance Cinema

Once again the RESISTANCE CINEMA party held on Sunday December 15 turned out to be a fun time for all. This year we screened a “Marxist” film, the Marx Brothers that is. Their hilarious classic *DUCK SOUP* kept folks laughing all the way. After the film, the feast was abundant as usual with a delicious mixture of home made cakes, cookies, veggies etc. brought by the generous attendees while the chicken, shrimp, and wine brought by Resistance Cinema.



The contagious energy and spirit was ebullient to say the least.



And after it was all over some people just didn't want to go home!



A very special thanks to LINDA NOVENSKI who was the principle coordinator of the party and did a splendid job. Thanks also to ESTHER ROSDAO, MAUREEN HOLDER, SANDY BROOKS, KAREN HOOVER, NYDIA LEAF, LAWRENE GROOBERT, ANNA BERG and DIANE MASON who all helped out in the kitchen.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

Board of Trustees Training

By Lisa Gluck



The Board of Trustees met with Rev. Richard Speck on Sunday, January 12, for further training in good practices. In contrast to the more structured training provided last June in an all-day class, the afternoon was spent in less formal discussion of topics the Board is looking to address in the coming months, including the Business Administrator job description, the Right Relations Policy, Congregational participation, and electronic communications etiquette. Look to hear more about these and other subjects in upcoming meetings!

From The Nominating Committee

This is a great time for you to consider serving in a leadership role at Community Church! The Nominating Committee at Community is working on preparation of a slate of nominees for open positions on the Board of Trustees, Church Council, and Nominating Committee. The slate of nominees and any nominees by petition will be presented to the congregation at the Annual Congregational Meeting March 30, 2014 and voted upon by voting members at this meeting.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

3 Members at-large of the Board, plus Treasurer position, for 3-year terms

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

4 Members for 2-year terms

CHURCH COUNCIL

(which includes service on the Committee on Committees)

2 Members at-large positions for 3-year terms and

1 Member at-large position for a 2-year term

We invite anyone with suggestions for nominees to contact a member of the committee or leave a message for us with the church office by February 9. The slate will be submitted to the clerk by February 15. If you are interested in a position and need more information about the responsibilities for each position, please do not hesitate to ask us. The qualifications for becoming a nominee include being a voting member, good leadership skills, good character, and sense of responsibility. The members of the committee are:

**Doug Anderson
Jonathan Birchall
Janice Marie Johnson
Sheila Kaminsky
George Marshall
Jack Seiferth
Helene Summa**

We hope to hear from you soon.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

Haiti Update

by George Garland

Moving to Westchester County brought me closer to Haiti in several ways. My neighbor Hugh Locke gave Fordham University's Gannon Lecture on **The Haiti Experiment: Breakthroughs that Could Change the World** at the United Nations. Hugh is Co-founder and President of the Smallholder Farmer's Alliance which includes a thousand farms in Gonaive, Haiti's third largest city. These farmers plant over a million trees a year and have economically self-sustaining farms growing non-GMO crops. Hugh identifies the half billion smallholder farmers on the planet as our first line of defense in the struggle to combat global warming.

Another Westchester friend, Kara Lightburn, Executive Director of Social Tap, was co-organizer of **Haiti: Post-Disaster Reconstruction, Sustainability, and Development** at Fordham University. Kara reported on the conditions in a refugee camp in Jacmel after the earthquake and follows up on efforts of the International Organization on Migration to provide post-disaster housing. Joe Duplan of Konpay and Hugh Locke led a break out session last year on improved cook stoves using fuel made from waste. Doolittle Fund support enabled Joe to make a press for making briquettes for fuel from coconut husk char.

My neighbor David Stillman's Public Private Alliance Foundation got a contract with the Inter-American Development Bank to explore

ethanol stove development in Haiti. David was able to bring expertise to Leogane which motivated ways for local distillers to improve their productivity by documenting that half the sugar content in juice squeezed from cane was lost to hungry micro-organisms!

Maryknoll, New York is tucked away in a corner of my new home town of Ossining. The Maryknolls' work in Central America at risk to life and limb has been an inspiration to me for many years. Polly's daughter Elisabeth, who worked for Partners in Health, gave me *In the Company of the Poor: Conversations with Dr. Paul Farmer and Fr. Gustavo Gutierrez*, published by Orbis books of Maryknoll, New York. Paul Farmer is a co-founder of Partners in Health and was appointed as United Nations Secretary-General's Special Adviser for Community-based Medicine and Lessons from Haiti in 2010. Fr. Gutierrez splits his time between teaching at Notre Dame University and his work in Lima, Peru. This book is especially relevant to the question recently raised by Rev. Dr. Anthony Johnson, "How will Community Church address oppression in the future?"

Unjust structures of poverty which put the poor at greater risk of disease and disaster combined with the biblical admonition to bring about the Kingdom of God on earth for all people lead to a conclusion that preference toward the marginalized is a step toward social justice. Fr. Gutierrez's work in liberation theology suggests that deeper spirituality comes from solidarity with the poor. Community Church's legacy of work in social justice is solid foundation for our future.

Members' Poetry

SAGE

Sage; a worthy soul goal
Solid, yet pliable in the artistic hands of God
Strength transcending pain
Silent evolution enduring decades
Soul Schools have teachers of many talents
Seven Sisters; Pleiades
Six of the stars are visible to the human eye
2012 by Connie Moore

Spring, Feb 1

At least there are the witch hazel
and sullen snowdrops.
The Lenten rose has plans
for soon.
We will wait out the cold
as we must
or take a jet plane to follow
a later-setting sun
where no green has died.
It is there
and it is within the ground here
as the shortest month
waddles on
wrapped in layers.

Mary Orovan

HERE AT COMMUNITY

The Community Church of New York
Unitarian Universalist

"To everything there is a season. Turn! Turn! Turn!"

In Memoriam: Pete Seeger

Dear Members and Friends,

We join the nation and world in giving thanks for the extraordinary life of Pete Seeger, a member of Community for more than 20 years.

Throughout his life, his music, grace, and activism embraced the great causes of peace and justice. He and Toshi, his beloved partner in marriage who died last summer, reflected Dr. King's summons that we should be "creatively maladjusted" in our service to one another and the world.

One special evening here at Community was the celebration of his 85th birthday with the collaboration of the UU Service Committee. It was a moment of blessing, inspiration and ongoing challenge to embody the Beloved Community.

We hold his family in our thoughts and prayers. We remain grateful for a life such as his. Much perishes, but love abides into each new day. His radiant spirit and abundant good works live on in us and across the land.



Faithfully,
Rev. Bruce Southworth, Senior Minister

*"What's it going to take? That's the question. We know we need some big changes, but how are we going to get them?
I think it's going to take the courage of people who refuse to stand silently by." – Pete Seeger*

Community Church of New York UU A Spiritual Community

by George Garland

Recently in a sermon, Rev. Richard Speck gave us a formula for membership growth that included social service as a key ingredient. I can testify that Helene and BJ's Place, our Community Church shelter, models this advice! In service for the past 30 years, its governance structure is a joyous blend of jolts from reality and a chance to meet with friends who are committed to a good cause. Participation from our team of folks who open Helene and BJ's each night for the "guys from Main Chance" is all volunteer. It's great to be associated with something that works and it can't hurt to get advice from the pulpit to go and do likewise! See Fred Corden or me to learn more.



HERE AT COMMUNITY

GALLERY35

From Mato Grosso & Havana via New York City"
Closing Reception: February 8, 6-8pm
featuring the work of three great contemporary visual artists Grace de Almeida Kaway, Humberto Espindola, and Aisar J. Martinez. Also included in the show are 24 woodcuts by popular printmakers from Pernambuco, Nena-Francisco Borge, J. Borges and Costa Leite.

Sanctuary
Opening Reception: March 1, 5-8pm
Closing Reception: April 19, 6-8pm
In a show titled "Sanctuary," the work of artist members of Gallery35 will again return to the walls. Our artists will offer—in varying styles and media—personal interpretations of what constitutes places of sanctuary for them. A portion of the proceeds from sales of exhibited and unframed art plus gift items will be donated to the New Sanctuary Task Force for the benefit of immigrant families.

Every Child is an Artist – World Culture Reflections with RE/FM Program and Vidho Lorville
Opening Reception – Sunday, February 9, 12:45 pm,
Gallery. Show closes on February 21.

The children and families have been working with artist Vidho Lorville, various Sunday afternoons, on a series of visual art workshops. The workshops have been designed to create community through fun learning activities through the arts that engages the children, parents and friends.

Vidho has woven in the workshops discussion about the African Diaspora in the Americas. His hope was for the children to understand "their local cultural legacy to a bigger social spectrum of presence and influence in the making of the cosmopolitan livelihood found in the city of New York." Through the visual arts, we have been exploring the cultural and artistic commonality shared with communities of African descent found in the Caribbean and the Americas.

Vidho has focused on the manifestation of folk, traditional and narrative art forms that are expressed in popular and religious festivities during carnival celebrations or what in many areas, the term "Mardi Gras" has come to mean the whole period of activity related to the celebratory events beyond what is known as "Mardi Gras Day" or "Fat Tuesday". We have been fortunate to also have gained the perspective of Lyric Cox, RE Teacher, who hales from the



New Orleans Region. She has given historical context and meaning of Carnival and Mardi Gras in particular from the New Orleanian traditions. The children has have explored the correlation and difference between multiculturalism, assimilation and melting pot phenomena with various cosmopolitan communities that have given expression this festive tradition. The children have made visual art creations with several art forms: drawing, painting and three-dimensional sculptures. All are welcome.



HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2014

AARP Tax Assistance

Thursdays, Beginning Thursday, January 30, 10 am-3 pm,
Assembly Hall, through April 10

First Saturday Feeding of the Hungry in the Bowery Saturdays, February 1 and March 8, 10:45 am offsite

We invite you to help the Sai Baba Group feed the hungry on the First Saturday of each month. We meet on Forsyth, just south of Houston at 10:45 am. Please bring vegetarian food to share with the over 100 people who come. This is an outdoor event so dress for the weather. For more information contact Valerie Lynch at vlynch@ccny.org or 212-683-4988, ext. 19.

Secular Humanist Society of New York Book Club

Thursdays, February 6 and March 6, 7-9 pm, Front Lounge

February 6 – *Arguments for the Existence of God: A Work of Fiction* by Rebecca Newberger Goldstein plunges into the great debate of our day: the clash between faith and reason.

March 6 – *The Oxford Book of Modern Science Writing* by Richard Dawkins, Ed. Boasting almost one hundred articles and book excerpts, this is a breathtaking celebration of the finest writing by scientists (Gould, Pinker, Einstein, Huxley, Gardner, Dennett, Turing) packed with scintillating essays on everything from "The Discovery of Lucy" to "The Terror and Vastness of the Universe."

Some of us will have dinner together afterwards at a nearby (inexpensive) restaurant. Join us even if you haven't finished reading. The book club is open to all ... and free!

Green Sanctuary – Future Visions Film Series

Fridays, February 28 and March 28, 6:30 pm, Gallery.
Film titles will be announced soon.

Anti-Racism Team

First Fridays, February 7 and March 7, 6:30 pm, Gallery

February – *Eyes on the Prize* (Part 2 of 3). An award-winning documentary on the civil rights movement that brilliantly illuminates the struggle for racial equality and social justice. It teaches essential lessons about race, leadership, and justice for all. March – To be announced

UU Christian Fellowship

Third Thursdays, February 20 and March 20, 7:30-9 pm

Moving Beyond Doubting Thomas will be the topical focus for our 2013-2014 meetings; together we will be discussing the Nag Hammadi discovery of The Gospel of Thomas, using religious scholar Ron Miller's text *The Gospel of Thomas: A Guidebook for Spiritual Practice* as a cornerstone for discussion. We will also be using two companion volumes – Elaine Pagel's *Beyond Belief: The Secret Gospel of Thomas* and Hal Taussig's *A New New Testament*. All

three of these books are recommended reading, not required. Our inquiries into this material will be kept open-ended, so people can explore personal concerns as well as religious matters at the MNY-UUCF chapter meetings. How can Christian witness remain spiritually, intellectually, and psychologically vital and also provide grounding for people who identify as Unitarian Universalist? These are questions we will be asking ourselves throughout the year.

Esperanto Society – Third Fridays, February 21 and March 21, 7 pm, Third Fl. Classroom

Everyone is welcome. Come immerse in a new language

Social Tea

Last Tuesdays, February 25 and March 25, 2-3:30 pm,
Assembly Hall

Join us for conversation, light refreshments and guests speakers.

February: Robert Reiss

March: To be announced.

Greek Studies Offered Again – Two Different Classes

Another opportunity to learn a new language and about another culture! This weekly courses will be facilitated by Yannis Tziligakis, friend of Community Church.

Greek Language Class

Saturdays, January 25-April 12, 3-6 pm, 3rd Fl Classroom

Another opportunity to learn a new language and about another culture! Yannis Tziligakis a seasoned educator, a native speaker and a friend of Community Church, will facilitate this weekly course. Instruction will be personalized according to the level of each individual student. Important Texts spanning 3,000 years of history will be used as basis for instruction!

Hellenic (Greek) Culture and Civilization

Tuesdays, January 28-April 15, 6:30-8:30 pm, 3rd Fl Classroom

Democracy/Economy/Politics/Philosophy/Theology/Astronomy/Geometry/Music/Theater/Architecture/Gastronomy/Hygiene – A series of 12 lectures followed by moderated discussion on the history, meaning and significance of the cornerstones of our humane civilization. Yannis Tziligakis, a Physicist/Economist/Educator and a friend of Community Church, will lead this weekly interdisciplinary college level course.

Great Questions – Second Tuesdays, 6:30-7:45 pm, Conference Room

Facilitated by Rev. Orlanda Brugnola

February 11: *What Is Our Greatest Fear?*

March 11: *If the Wind Could Take Us Where We Want to Be, Where Would We Go?*

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2014 continued

Moments that Change the Mind and Heart

Fourth Tuesdays, 6:15-6:45 pm, Chapel

Discussions about the meaning for our lives from a few scenes from movies

February 25: *The Reader*

March 25: *The Runaway Train*

Introduction to Humanism 101 – Mondays, February 24 and March 24, 6:30 pm

A monthly study group facilitated by John Rafferty of the Secular Humanist Society of New York.

Faith like a River: Themes from Unitarian Universalist History
Weekly beginning Thursday, February 20, 6:30-8 pm, Rear Lounge—

Emily DeTar, our Student Minister, will be teaching a class on the development of the American Unitarian Universalist Church. It will go from the evolution of the congregational church during the era of transcendentalism to what our denomination looks like today. Her class will go for eight weeks. No sign up required. Any questions? Contact Emily (edetar@ccny.org) or Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education (erosado@ccny.org) or 212-683-4988.

Young Adult Activities— Sundays, February 9 and 23, March 9 and 23, Gather at 12:30 pm by the elevator

2nd Sundays: Young adults are invited to enjoy a brunch and conversation together at a nearby (reasonably priced) restaurant.

4th Sundays: Young adults will meet to work on a community service project.

Contact Emily DeTar, Student Minister, edetar@ccny.org for more information.

Life and Death Café – Thursdays, February 13 and 20 and March 13 and 20, 3:30 – 5:30 pm, Assembly Hall (2nd and 4th Thursdays)

It's not a support group, or a counseling session, but rather gathering of people in a relaxed, comfortable atmosphere, sharing respectful, thought provoking and life affirming conversation – and yes, sipping coffee/tea and treats. What is Death? How does thinking about death improve my life? How can we prepare for our own death? What are some essential documents before you die? What's a green burial? And much more! The class fee will be \$5 per session. Questions? Contact Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education – erosado@ccny.org or 212-683-4988, ext. 23.

Especially New Members and Visitors

Pathways Series

What does it mean to be a Unitarian Universalist? What does it mean to be a member of Community Church? In order to help answer these questions, we offer our Pathways Classes.

Pathways 1 – Getting Acquainted.

This session is led by Reverend Bruce Southworth, our Senior Minister. He will share his journey and brief history of the church. This session will give people a chance to ask questions about our church as well as what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist. Next Session Dates to Be Announced.

Pathways 2 – Our Community and the Meaning of Membership

This session is led by Val Lynch, Membership Coordinator, Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education and several members of Community church.

This session is devoted to sharing our spiritual and journey and exploring what Community Church offers. Our church provides an opportunity for people to grow their souls and to help their community in many practical ways. At this session, we will explore the various activities, committees and groups in our congregation. This session will explain what it means to be a member of our church. The session will last for approximately two hours. Refreshments will be served. Dates will be announced soon. Any questions? Contact Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator, 212-683-4988, ext. 19 or vlynch@ccny.org

Committee Meetings

- **Board of Trustees Meetings – Wednesdays February 26 and March 26, 6 pm, Gallery**
- **Church Council Meetings – Wednesdays, February 12 and March 12, 6 pm Potluck, 6:30-7:30 pm Meeting, Gallery**
- **Finance Committee –Wednesdays, February 19 and March 19, 6 pm, Gallery**
- **Buildings and Grounds Committee –Mondays, February 3 and March 3, 6 pm, Conference Room**

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2014 continued



Have you been to *The Peoples' Voice Cafe*?

by Rachel Stone

**Quality musical entertainment concerning
peace, social justice, and the environment...**

...right here at Community Church!

Peoples' Voice Cafe runs most Saturday nights from September through May in the Assembly Hall at Community Church of New York. Doors open 7:30pm, show starts 8:00pm. CONTRIBUTION: \$18 – more if you choose, less if you can't; no one turned away. Peoples' Voice Cafe members' suggested contribution is \$10. TDF vouchers also accepted for full admission.

If you were to imagine a musical venue that truly fits in with Unitarian-Universalist principles, you'd be hard-pressed to improve upon the Peoples' Voice Cafe, which has been gracing Community Church's Assembly Hall on thirty Saturday nights per year for more than five years.

Peoples' Voice Cafe (PVC) was founded in 1979 by a group of musicians, songwriters and music lovers who wanted to establish a NYC venue presenting music that relates directly to humanitarian and social justice concerns. From its outset, PVC has focused on high quality musical acts that are politically relevant (mostly acoustic folk), pricing policies that make the shows accessible to people of varied financial means, and paying its performers fairly.

Peoples' Voice continued success is also due to its many dedicated volunteers who handle everything from publicity, booking performers, and running the sound system, to baking delicious homemade goodies to enjoy along with fresh-brewed coffee and a full assortment of teas, all at very reasonable prices.

Take note of who's performing next at Peoples' Voice Cafe from notices in Community Church Announcements and emails, or go directly to PVC's website at www.peoplesvoicecafe.org. We look forward to seeing you there!

Here's what's coming up:

Most Saturdays, 8 pm, Assembly Hall

February 1: Judy Gorman and The Blues Mothers

February 8: Rod MacDonald

February 15: Faith Nolan & the Bull Dagger Blues Band and Thelma Thomas

February 22: Jeremiah Birnbaum, Beth Kotkin and Jon Ziv

March 1: Tribute to Carolyn Hester, with Carolyn Hester, Amy and Karla Blume

March 8: Alix Dobkin; Wool & Grant

March 15: People's Purim: Jewish Voices for Peace and Justice (Robin Greenstein, Paul Stein, tba)

March 22: The Brooklyn Community Storytellers; Robin Bady

March 29: Terry Kitchen; Pat Lamanna; Mara Levine & Caroline Cutroneo

Events Calendar for February 2014

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1 10:45 1st Saturday Feeding 11:30 Community Women Luncheon 3:00 Greek Language Class 6:00 Gallery35 Open House 8:00 People's Voice Café	THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6 7:00 Secular Humanist Book Club FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7 6:30 Antiracism Team SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8 3:00 Greek Language Class 6:00 Gallery35 Closing Reception 8:00 People's Voice Café	WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12 6:00 Church Council Potluck 6:30 Church Council THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13 3:30 Death Café FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14 VALENTINE'S DAY SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15 3:00 Greek Language Class 5:00 Gallery35 Closing Reception 8:00 People's Voice Café	MONDAY, February 17 Presidents' Day Building Closed Streetsingers TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18 6:00 Hellenic (Greek) Culture & Civilization WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19 6:00 Finance Cmte. Meeting 7:00 UU Christian Fellowship THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21 7:00 Esperanto Society SATURDAY, February 22 3:00 Greek Language Class 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, February 23 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour	MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24 6:30 NYC UU Ministers 6:30 Introduction of Humanism 101 TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25 2:00 Social Tea 6:15 Moving The Heart & Mind 6:00 Hellenic (Greek) Culture & Civilization 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26 6:00 Board of Trustees 6:30 Development of American UU Church THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27 3:30 Death Café FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28 6:30 Green Sanctuary Film Series
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FOR MORE Adult Religious Education and Opportunities/Events Feb/Mar pages 8, 9, 10

Credits & Guidelines

Members are encouraged to submit articles to *Community Connections*. The submission deadline is the first Wednesday of the month prior to issue date. Submissions can be emailed Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator. Articles submitted are subject to proofing and editing for clarity, brevity, grammar, punctuation, spelling and content.

SAVE THE DATE

**Annual Meeting of the Congregation • Elections •
Sunday, March 30, 12:45 pm in the Assembly Hall**

Events Calendar for March 2014

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

10:45 First Saturday Feeding
3:00 Greek Language Class
5:00 Gallery35 Opening Reception
8:00 People's Voice Café

SUNDAY, MARCH 2

9:30 Choir Rehearsal
9:45 UN Global Affairs
11:00 Morning Worship
11:00 Sunday School
12:15 Fellowship Hour
12:30 Young Adults Brunch
1:15 Resistance Cinema

MONDAY, MARCH 3

6:00 Buildings & Grounds
7:00 Streetsingers

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

6:00 Hellenic (Greek) Culture & Civilization

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

6:30 Development of American UU Church
6:30 Gallery35 Executive Meeting

THURSDAY, MARCH 6

6:30 Secular Humanist Society

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

6:30 Antiracism Team

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

3:00 Greek Language Class
6:00 Gallery35 Open House
8:00 People's Voice Café

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

Daylight Saving Time Begins

9:30 Choir Rehearsal
11:00 Morning Worship
11:00 Sunday School
12:15 Fellowship Hour
1:15 Action For Justice Forum

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

2:00 Memoir Group
6:00 Hellenic (Greek) Culture & Civilization
6:30 Great Questions
7:00 Streetsingers

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

6:00 Church Council Potluck
6:30 Church Council
6:30 Development of American UU Church

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

3:30 Death Café

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

3:00 Greek Language Class
6:00 Gallery35 Open House
8:00 People's Voice Café

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

9:30 Choir Rehearsal
11:00 Morning Worship
11:00 Sunday School
12:15 Fellowship Hour
12:30 Young Adults Gathering
12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal
1:15 Resistance Cinema

MONDAY, MARCH 17

7:00 Streetsingers

TUESDAY, MARCH 18

6:00 Hellenic (Greek) Culture & Civilization

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

6:00 Finance Meeting
6:30 Development of American UU Church

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

7:00 UU Christian Fellowship

FRIDAY, MARCH 21

7:00 Esperanto Society
6:00 Gallery35 Open House

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

3:00 Greek Language Class
6:00 Gallery35 Open House
8:00 People's Voice Café

SUNDAY, MARCH 23

9:30 Choir Rehearsal
11:00 Morning Worship
11:00 Sunday School
11:45 UN Global Affairs Luncheon Forum
12:15 Fellowship Hour
12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal

MONDAY, MARCH 24

6:30 NYC UU Ministers

TUESDAY, MARCH 25

2:00 Social Tea
6:15 Moments That Change the Mind & Heart
6:00 Hellenic (Greek) Culture & Civilization
7:00 Streetsingers

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26

6:00 Board of Trustees
6:30 Development of American UU Church

THURSDAY, MARCH 27

3:30 Death Café

FRIDAY, MARCH 28

6:30 Green Sanctuary Film Series

SATURDAY, MARCH 29

3:00 Greek Language Class
6:30 Gallery35 Open House
8:00 People's Voice Café

SUNDAY, MARCH 30

Annual Congregational Meeting

9:30 Choir Rehearsal
11:00 Morning Worship
11:00 Sunday School
12:15 Fellowship Hour

MONDAY, MARCH 31

6:30 Introduction to Humanism 101

Rev. Bruce Southworth, Senior Minister
Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education
Gerald A. Brown, Director of Music
Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator
Rev. Orlanda Brugnola, Affiliated Minister
Rev. Dr. Anthony P. Johnson, Affiliated Minister
Emily DeTar, Student Minister
Ena Miller, Business Administrator



The Community Church of New York
Unitarian Universalist
40 East 35th Street
New York, N.Y. 10016
www.ccny.org
Tel: 212.683.4988

ISSUE: FIFTY EIGHT
Here At Community, Opportunities, Calendars
and much more...
Deadline for April/May issue due March 5, 2014

COMMUNITY connections

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF NEW YORK
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Growing Souls, Doing Justice, and Being Bold in a Caring Community since 1825

Issue 59 • Apr./May 2014

Join us for our annual springtime events!

Here At Community

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April/May Calendars
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- **Community Retreat ~ April 11-13**
- **Tenebrae ~ Friday, April 18**
- **Community Seder ~Saturday, April 19**
- **Easter with our *Balloon Benediction* and New Member Welcome ~ April 20**



HERE AT COMMUNITY

Members Out and About

Lehna Huie had new art works exhibited in the Belletrix Group Exhibition at Raw Space: Imagenation last month. **Ellen Mandelbaum** had glass works exhibited at the 15th Annual Williamsburg Art & Historical Center Salon Art Club Show. Congratulations to these two artists! Keep us posted on upcoming shows!

Rev. Hope Johnson and **Renee Joey Morelli** both had essays published on UUA's Standing on the Side of Love site. Hope's was a tribute to Pete Seeger and Renee wrote "*A Call to Building Bridges*", a reflection looking at the importance of building community relationships through the eyes of a retired police officer. Please read these wonderful blogs – See the bulletin board (by the kitchen) or click the links on our website's home page. Hard copies are available upon request.

Rev. Hope Johnson was also the subject of a feature article in *Newsday* on February 15, "*Garden City Church Leader Living a Legacy*". The article focused on her 10 year ministry at UU Congregation of Central Nassau. (Also see the bulletin board and/or website.)

Teresa Hommel offers a suggestion for theatre buffs. Every month The Shotz theater group gives six groups 2 weeks to write a 10-minute play, 2 weeks to rehearse, and 2 hours to tech. Two performances are then held on one night. These shows are funny, well-written, imaginatively directed and most of the participants are theater professionals. Tickets are \$10. See Teresa for more information.

BIRTHDAYS

April 2014

4	Shoulan Chang
5	Louise Brown
7	Valerie Lynch
11	Helene Summa
12	George Martin
13	Deborah Gambs
15	Gladys McNatt Robert Bobrick
16	Agnes Babich
18	Nancy Hough
22	Brianna Goldberg
24	Thorin Watts
26	Brenda Shrobe
27	Rebecca Reilly
28	Mary Springston Patti Paris

BIRTHDAYS

May 2014

1	Don Powell Mae Tabbanor
2	Mary Orovan
4	Rosemary McNatt
7	Paul Hampton Lindsay Manocherian
11	Elinor White David Allen Asencio Catalina Martinez- Concepcion
15	Gregory A. Jones Ron Giancola
16	Virginia Brody
17	Mark de Solla Price Willem Tahon-Kelfkens
18	Nicole Lord
19	Marilyn Travis Gerald Foreman
20	Renata Rainer
21	Rebecca Flather
25	Diana Stewart
31	George Garland

IN MEMORIAM

Justin Vranek, longtime member of Community Church, passed away after a short illness on February 7. Having joined Community in 1991, Justin was a truly devoted and beloved church member with enormous kindness, grace and a giving spirit. Justin enjoyed a breadth of friendships and activities. Over the years, he served on the Buildings & Grounds, Music, and Membership Committees, as well as assisting the Caring Network. He would often be seen at the Welcome Table on Sundays and at the Social Teas, among other occasions. We keep his cousin Dorothy Lutz and his dear friend (and ours) Nancy Jennings in our thoughts and prayers at this time. Justin will be greatly missed by all of us at Community. A Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, April 6, at 12:30 pm.

Katie Travis Barrett, beloved spouse of Damien, mother of Casey and Maggie, and daughter of long-time member **Marilyn Travis** passed away in February. Katie had a special grace and warmth of spirit, with enormous courage, heart and strength. Music was one of her passions, and for many years, she and Marilyn sang in our annual holiday *Messiah* service. Our love goes out to her family.

Winifred Norman, a longtime friend of Community Church and grand-daughter of Lewis Latimer, renowned African-American inventor of the late 19th/early 20th century, passed away in February. The Memorial for Winnie will take place on Saturday, April 12, 12-4pm at Fourth Universalist Church.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

“Every Child is an Artist”

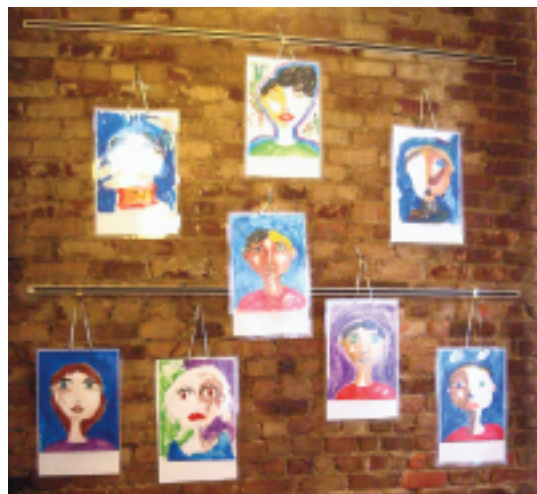
Every Child is an Artist: World Culture Reflections with Vidho Lorville was held on Sunday, February 9.

An exhibition celebrating cultural variety and artistic commonality found among people of diverse origins living in the cosmopolitan

community of New York City. Children and professional artists of different ages and backgrounds created visual art inspired by traditional celebrations such as Halloween and Carnival. The show displayed the art creators' respective reflection on culture, history and art forms from around the world.



Mask Making



Photos by Linda Novenski



HERE AT COMMUNITY



The New Amsterdam Boys & Girls Choir, conducted by James Backmon appeared here at Community Church of NY Sunday, January 19. The choir was established in 1986 as the New Amsterdam Boys Choir. In 2008, it broadened its mission to serve girls. The choir annually gives 10-15 local performances. The venues for concerts away from New York City have been Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut, Vermont, Nebraska and Maryland. The Boys Choir also made three trips to Germany. The NABGC is an East Harlem community based organization.

Member's Poetry

Above...the bricks

(and down below)

A city teems with life

Umbrellas bloom like mushrooms
in the rain.

We continue...we march

Sometimes we stroll,

Sometimes we crawl.

The joy in a drop of rain

(or a bird's tweet)

Is enough to keep us

Charged and in love.

Linda Novenski

Community Women Honor Two Community Members

At the worship service held on Women's Sunday, March 9, Reena Kondo awarded Certificates of Recognition to two Community members, Laurie James, as "Keeper of the Past" for her original plays on Women's History and to Gusti Bogok, as "Guardian of the Future" for her work as Chair of the Green Sanctuary Committee and Co-Chair of the Gas Drilling Task Force of Sierra Club. Congratulations to Laurie and Gusti, and we thank you for your work and dedication.



Reena Kondo with Laurie James

Mandelbaum on Music:

Community member Joel Mandelbaum talks about his creative process

by Brenda Carpenter Osayim

I've known Joel Mandelbaum for more than a decade and I thought it would be fun, as well as educational, to interview him for my Introduction to Western Music final research paper at Queensborough Community College last fall. We are both members of the Community Church of New York/Unitarian Universalist, and we often play Scrabble™ with another mutual friend, Maureen Chen. In the interest of transparency, Joel has set one of my unpublished poems to music and that song, *Mêlée*, has been performed several times here at Community Church as well as at Queens College. His biography in the program of the March 25, 1995 world premiere of his opera, *The Village*, describes him as follows:

Joel Mandelbaum (*Composer*) graduated *magna cum laude* from Harvard University, received an MFA from Brandeis University, and a Ph.D. in music from Indiana University. Among his teachers were Walter Piston, Irving Fine, Bernherd Heiden, Aaron Copland, and Luigi Dallapiccola. He is a prolific composer of songs, operas, and orchestral and chamber music. The *New York Times* praised his *Light and Shade*, musical settings of poems by Susan Fox, as "delightful, exquisitely crafted," and *Music in the Twentieth Century*, by William Austin, called his microtonal compositions "worthy continuations of [Debussy's] adventures." Dr. Mandelbaum is a professor at the Aaron Copland School of Music. (*The Village, An Opera in Two Acts* (World Premiere), Queens College Theatre, March 25-April 2, 1995)

The Village is one of two operas that Joel counts among his most significant contributions to music. He has also composed over 30 individual songs (of which *Mêlée* is only one), 14 song cycles, orchestral pieces, traditional chamber music, and several experimental microtonal pieces, *i.e.*, music that builds on smaller intervals between notes, for which his work is best recognized. He confesses that he often "sneaks" microtones into his mainstream pieces, which he says is especially easy to do with French horns. He works with the traditional 12-tone scale; however, his exploration is different from that of Arnold Schoenberg and others. His goal is to find ways of realizing the "purity" of the consonances between the tones. "Just because there are a given number of tones," he explains, "doesn't mean that you have to use them all." His microtonal music is based on 31 note octaves.

I asked Joel if he considered himself a modern, modernist, post-modern or futuristic composer and he responded, "None of the above." Then he told me that K. Robert Schwarz at the *New York Times* once spoke of modernist academics and post-modern mini-

malists. The late Alfred Gescheidt, also a member of Community Church, asked Joel which he was. Joel proposed an East Coast vs. West Coast metaphor to represent these two trends in American music and replied, "New Zealand." He also shuns the terms neo-classical and neo-romantic. He does not agree with the view that the history of art is something that has to be in a constant state of change and there is no going back. He feels that Igor Stravinsky is representative of neo-classical composers, someone who "takes the classical style and puts it through the wringer until it no longer really is classical." He says he would take the "neo" out of neo-classical in describing his own music and call it, as well as that of a handful of his contemporaries, what it actually is: classical music.

Joel believes that too many contemporary composers are more interested in style than in substance; his concern is substance. Is it possible to write new material in a style that was used 100 or 200 years ago? Joel believes that it is.

One of Joel's major concerns is the enormous drop in the size of audiences at classical music performances. He says this drop is consistent with the conformity to modernism that the music community insists upon. He considers himself a dissident from the standard musicological view that music cannot be written in the classical style. This, says Joel, is just one of many factors leading to the dissolution of classical music audiences. He also points out that classical music, like intramural sports and Latin, was cut from the school curriculum due to budget constraints in the 1970s. His solution to the problem would be an infusion of new works, and that is where he sees his contribution as being necessary. The music he writes is intended to re-stimulate an interest in classical music. Without such an infusion, he predicts, audience size will continue to shrink.

Joel is proud of his two operas, *The Dybbuk* and *The Village*, which run approximately 2½ hours each. He talks about them in a highly animated fashion when describing the creative process that went into making them. Wagner is one of his models for writing opera and like Wagner, he infuses the emotions of the characters into his music. For his first opera, he chose the 1914 play *The Dybbuk*, by S. Ansky because of the long, extended monologues that presented themselves as ready-made text for arias and highlights.

The Village, on the other hand, was an original collaboration with Susan Fox, one of his colleagues at Queens College. The libretto is based on the real-life experiences of Prof. Fox's husband and brother-in-law, who both grew up in German-occupied France. In the

continued on page 6

HERE AT COMMUNITY

opera, these two Jewish boys are combined into one character, David. The drama focuses on the villagers who take him in and protect him for almost two years (November 1942-August 1944). During Easter mass, David, who has learned Catholic prayers, sings an English translation of the *Victimae Paschali* with the boys' choir, as the villagers sing in counterpoint, and the priest sings the same song in Latin. Simultaneously, David's mother, who represents the tragedy unfolding in Paris and in the rest of Europe, recites the *Kaddish*, the Jewish prayer for the dead, on another part of the stage. The overall effect is chilling. The opera ends with the heroic death of the character Antoine, who has been sent on a mission by his father to expose the Jewish boy to German authorities. Antoine is killed instead while attempting to aid the French Resistance. David remains safe, France is liberated, but there is a prediction of the violence that is yet to come.

The Creative Process

"When I'm writing music, I feel that I'm being more social than at any other time because I'm going to share this music with my friends, my wife, our colleagues at Community Church, and with the public. My wife, however, feels differently." Joel admits that *The Dybbuk*, which took five years to write, did cause some pain in his relationships with family and friends.

While writing *The Village*, however, Joel found a way to engage in his creative

process and still maintain ties to his friends and family during the process. The libretto was completed in 1991 and then laid out on blank manuscript paper. He put the first notes on paper in January 1992. He then divided the finished product into specific tasks. To keep track of his progress, Joel subdivided the tasks into a thousand units. His goal was to accomplish 15-20 units per day until the work was finished. *The Village* took three years to complete, as opposed to six or seven had he not systematized the process. He was also working against a real deadline: the production was scheduled to premiere at Queens College on the 50th Anniversary of the Liberation of Europe.

In 1993, while working on *The Village*, Joel and his wife took a long-awaited vacation to New Zealand. Arriving in Auckland, Joel discovered a "much-needed" piano in the lobby of the hotel and sat down at it before he checked in. His first priority was to fix three days of work he'd done traveling across the Pacific, away from any musical instruments at all. He was so engrossed that when a former high school colleague of his, someone he hadn't seen in 20 years, suddenly appeared and greeted him enthusiastically, Joel looked up from the piano and said, "Oh, hello," then turned back to his work. (He later apologized.) The next day, they were delivered by helicopter to a mountaintop to admire the view, and although Joel says he did both, his wife

says he sat down and started writing music the moment he was out of the helicopter.

Joel thinks and works in precise, mathematical terms all the time, just one of the reasons he is a "champion" — my opinion — Scrabble™ player. Maureen and I strive to make our *combined* scores top his score in each game. He credits this method of working, which he calls "metered discipline," with his success in terms of time and productivity.

Joel is confident that *The Village* will eventually pass into the mainstream repertoire of major opera companies. He is optimistic because, of the five performances at Queens College in 1995, the last two performances sold out by word of mouth. In the interim, he has decided that he cannot be both the creator of works and his own publicist. At 81 years of age, he is still waiting to be discovered by someone who can catapult his works onto the stage of the Metropolitan Opera and beyond, and he is content to leave the tasks of discovery and publicity to someone else. "If the outside world decides to respond to the works I've created, it will help them build audiences."

Joel has been teaching music at Queens College since 1961 and, although officially retired, still drives to the campus twice per week to teach. He lives in Sunnyside, Queens, with Ellen, his wife of 56 years, whom he met at Brandeis University, and their dog, Nobby.

Joel Mandelbaum Concert – Sunday, April 6, 2 pm, Assembly Hall

**Joel is bringing a wonderful chorus to the Assembly Hall
to present a concert mostly of his works.**

HERE AT COMMUNITY

GALLERY35



Our benefit exhibition: "SANCTUARY"

In a show titled "Sanctuary," the work of artist members offer personal interpretations of what constitutes places of sanctuary for them. The exhibit includes a "Gallery Shop" featuring cards and gift items created by the artists of Gallery35. Proceeds from both receptions will be donated to the New Sanctuary Task Force for the benefit of Immigrant families.

Closing Reception: April 19 – 6-8 pm

Art Showcase 2014: "FILTERED THRU THE ARTIST'S EYE"

Our 2013/2014 season will conclude with our second annual "art showcase" highlighting the best representative work of the artists of the Gallery35. The exhibited art will depict a variety of subjects rendered innovatively in all of the various media. Cards and gift items created by the artists will again be available at the "Gallery Shop."

Opening Reception: May 3 – 6-8 pm

Closing Reception: June 21 – 6-8 pm

Items of Interest from the January Congregational Meeting

by Valerie Lynch

This information has been requested by several Members.

The resolution – "Be it resolved, therefore, that the Community Church of New York, Unitarian Universalist, supports the passage of NEW YORK PUBLIC LAW 1 and instructs our legislators in the Assembly and the Senate to enact said law." was passed by the congregation.

Our voting results for the Selection of Congregational Study/Action Issues (CSAIs) for 2014-2018 at the 2014 UU General Assembly (GA) were:

Empowerment: Age and Ability Reconsidered – 18 votes
Ending the War on Terror – 27 votes
Escalating Inequality – 31 votes
Gun Violence: A Public Health Issue – 29 votes
Renewing and Securing Our American Democracy – 30 votes
UU Values and the Pursuit of a Just Peace for Israelis and Palestinians – 22 votes

After polling all UU congregations, the UUA announced the following issues will be voted upon at GA to be selected the next CSAI:

- Empowerment: Age and Ability Reconsidered
- Ending the War on Terror
- Escalating Inequality
- Gun Violence: A Public Health Issue
- Renewing and Securing Our American Democracy

I'm happy to report that Community Church continues to participate in the work of previous CSAIs:

- 2012-2016 CSAI: Reproductive Justice: Expanding Our Social Justice Calling - Community Women and UNGA Committee, in particular, offer many programs on this topic.
- 2010-2014 CSAI, now 2013 SOC (Statement of Conscience): Immigration as a Moral Issue – Action for Justice/New Sanctuary Task Force continues to work in this issue. The congregation held a Common Read of *The Death of Josseline*.

Please visit UUA.org to learn more.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2014

Yoga with Nafisa Degani

Tuesdays, through June 24, 6-7:30 pm, Rear Lounge and Saturdays, through June 30, 12:30-2 pm, Rear Lounge

Hatha Yoga is a branch of yoga which concentrates on physical health and mental well-being. Hatha yoga uses bodily postures (asanas), breathing techniques (pranayama), and meditation (dyana) with the goal of bringing about a sound, healthy body and a clear, peaceful mind. There are nearly 200 hatha yoga postures, with hundreds of variations, which work to make the spine supple and to promote circulation in all the organs, glands, and tissues. Hatha yoga postures also stretch and align the body, promoting balance and flexibility with very slow controlled movements.

Action for Justice Special Event

Initiation of the Anti-Drone Campaign

Wednesday, April 2, 6:30-9 pm, Assembly Hall

Forum with Nick Mottern.

Action for Justice – Details coming soon.

Forum – Sunday, April 13, 1:15-3 pm

Action For Justice Sunday – May 4

AARP Tax Assistance

Thursdays, April 3 and 10, 10 am-2 pm, Assembly Hall

First Saturday Feeding of the Hungry in the Bowery

Saturdays, April 5 and May 3, 10:45 am offsite

We invite you to help the Sai Baba Group feed the hungry on the First Saturday of each month. We meet on Forsyth, just south of Houston at 10:45 am. Please bring vegetarian food to share with the over 100 people who come. This is an outdoor event so dress for the weather. For more information contact Valerie Lynch at vlynch@ccny.org or 212-683-4988, ext. 19.

Secular Humanist Society of New York Book Club

Thursdays, April 3 and May 1, 7-9 pm, Front Lounge

April 3: *Who's In Charge? Free Will and the Science of the Brain* by Michael S. Gazzaniga

May 1: *A Fit of Pique* – SHSNY President's selection of a dozen essays from the pages of this newsletter.

Some of us have dinner together afterwards at a nearby (inexpensive) restaurant. Join us even if you haven't finished reading. The book club is open to all ... and free!

Green Sanctuary – Solar Salon Series

Fridays, April 25 and May 30, 6:30 pm, Gallery.

Programs will be announced soon.

Anti-Racism Team

First Fridays, April 4 and May 2, 6:30 pm, Gallery

April Film: *Eyes On The Prize* (part 3)

May Film: to be announced

Memoir Group

Tuesday, April 8, and May 13, 2 pm, Gallery

A Memoir Group with a wonderful leader, Elizabeth Rowe, meets on the 2nd Tuesdays, January-May. For more information contact Reena Kondo 212-724-0438 or reenakondo1@gmail.com.

UU Christian Fellowship

Third Thursdays, April 17 and May 15, 7:30-9 pm

Moving Beyond Doubting Thomas will be the topical focus for our 2013-2014 meeting. Together we will be discussing the Nag Hammadi discovery of The Gospel of Thomas, using religious scholar Ron Miller's text *The Gospel of Thomas: A Guidebook for Spiritual Practice*, Elaine Pagel's *Beyond Belief: The Secret Gospel of Thomas* and Hal Taussig's *A New New Testament*. Our inquiries into this material will be kept open-ended, so people can explore personal concerns as well as religious matters at the MNY-UUCF chapter meetings. Coordinator: Rev. Kelly Murphy Mason

Esperanto Society – Third Fridays, April 18 and May 16, 22, 7 pm, Third Fl. Classroom

Everyone is welcome. Come immerse in a new language

Passover Seder – Saturday, April 19, 5 pm, Assembly Hall

Plan to join us for a wonderful time of fun and fellowship. Tickets are now available on-line or from Rachel Stone and Bill Rothfarb on Sundays. Please call Rachel or Bill at 718-472-0102 or email rsongbird@gmail.com to be part of the Seder Team.

Spring Retreat at Stony Point

The retreat will be held **Friday, April 11-Sunday, April 13.**

Register now. Also, we are now looking for volunteers to help with the planning and/or to facilitate classes/workshops/hikes. Contact Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education at erosado@ccny.org or Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator, vlynch@ccny.org or call us at 212-683-4988.

Social Tea

Last Tuesdays, April 29, and May 27 2-3:30 pm, Assembly Hall

Join us for conversation, light refreshments and guest speakers.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2014 continued

Great Questions – Second Tuesdays, 6:30-7:45 pm, Conference Room

Facilitated by Rev. Orlanda Brugnola

April 8: *What Does Renewal Mean For the Spirit?*

May 13: *What Poems Move Us?*

Moving the Mind and Heart

Fourth Tuesdays, 6:15-7:45 pm, Chapel

Discussions about the meaning for our lives from a few scenes from movies. Facilitated by Rev. Orlanda Brugnola

April 22: *Water*

May 27: *Salmon Fishing in the Yemen*

Introduction to Humanism

Mondays, April 28, and June 2, 6:30 pm, Rear Lounge

A monthly study group facilitated by John Rafferty of the Secular Humanist Society of New York.

April 28 Topic: *The Sleep of Reason in America: From UFOs to Birthers*

May Meeting rescheduled to **June 2:** Topic to be announced

Young Adult Activities – Sundays, April 6, 20 and May 4, 18 Gather at 12:30 pm by the elevator

2nd Sundays: Young adults are invited to enjoy a brunch and conversation together at a nearby (reasonably priced) restaurant.

4th Sundays: Young adults will meet to work on a community service project. Contact Emily DeTar, Student Minister, edetar@ccny.org for more information.

Life and Death Café – Thursdays, April 10, 24 and May 8, 22, 3:30-5:30 pm, Assembly Hall (2nd and 4th Thursdays)

It's not a support group, or a counseling session, but rather gathering of people in a relaxed, comfortable atmosphere, sharing respectful, thought provoking and life affirming conversation – and yes, sipping coffee/tea and treats. What is Death? How does thinking about death improve my life? How can we prepare for our own death? What are some essential documents before you die? What's a green burial? And much more! The class fee will be \$5 per session. Questions? Contact Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education – erosado@ccny.org or 212-683-4988, ext.

Gallery35 Spring Art Shows – Saturdays, Gallery SANCTUARY

Open by Appointment – April 5 and 12,

Closing Reception – April 19, 6-8 pm

In a show titled “*Sanctuary*,” the work of artist members of Gallery35 will again return to the walls. Our artists will offer—in varying styles and media – personal interpretations of what constitutes places of sanctuary for them. In addition, a “Gallery Shop” will feature cards and gift items created by the artists of Gallery35. Proceeds from the receptions will be donated to the New Sanctuary Task Force for the benefit of immigrant families.

Art Showcase 2014: “FILTERED THRU THE ARTIST’S EYE”

Opening Reception – May 3, 6-8 pm

Closing Reception June 21, 6-8 pm

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Community Women – Everyone is Invited

Around the Table Playreading – *Inherit the Wind* Sunday, April 13, 1 pm, Gallery

Inspiring Readings & Commentary on Climate Crisis Sunday, May 4, 1:15 pm, Gallery

From Eco-Poetry.org/ in the Age of Fossil Fuel

“Corporatocracy” (Followed by Discussion with the Audience)

Readings from: Rumi, Pablo Neruda, Ernesto Cardenal, Allen Ginsberg, Grace Paley, Ishmael Reed, Amiri Baraka, Marge Piercy, Linda Hogan, Al Gore, Wendell Berry. by accomplished, award winning poets Daniela Gioseffi & Nancy Mercado

Resistance Cinema – Sundays, April 6, May 11, 25, 1:15-3 pm

April 6 Film: *Unmanned: America's Drone Wars*

Robert Greenwald investigates the impact of U.S. drone strikes across the globe. The film reveals the realities of drone warfare—the violation of international law, the loss of life, and the far-reaching implications for the communities that live under drones. Victims, witnesses, psychiatrists, and a former American drone operator are interviewed and warn against blowback from the loss of innocent life.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2014 continued

United Nations-Global Affairs Forum and Luncheon
Sunday, April 27, 1-3 pm. Details coming soon.

Greek Language Class-Final Sessions

Saturdays, April 5 and 12, 3-6 pm, 3rd Fl Classroom

Another opportunity to learn a new language and about another culture! Yannis Tziligakis a seasoned educator, a native speaker and a friend of Community Church, will facilitate this weekly course. Instruction will be personalized according to the level of each individual student. Important Texts spanning 3,000 years of history will be used as basis for instruction!

Hellenic (Greek) Culture and Civilization – Final Sessions

Tuesdays, April 1, 8 and 15, 6:30-8:30 pm, Conference Room

A series of lectures followed by moderated discussion on the history, meaning and significance of the cornerstones of our humane civilization. Yannis Tziligakis, a Physicist/Economist/Educator and a friend of Community Church, will lead this weekly interdisciplinary college level course.

Faith like a River:

Themes from Unitarian Universalist History – Series 2

Thursdays, April 10, through May 1, 6:30-8 pm, Chapel

Emily DeTar, our Student Minister, will be teaching a class on the development of the American Unitarian Universalist Church. This series will focus on the developments leading up to the consolidation of the UUA and what things we face now. No sign up required. Any questions? Contact Emily (edetar@ccny.org) or Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education (erosado@ccny.org) or 212-683-4988.

Life Line Screening Coming to Community

Tuesday, April 8, Assembly Hall

Life Line Screening, a leading mobile health screening organization, offers painless and non-invasive health screening. For appointments and fee information, call 877-792-8479 (www.lifelinescreening.com)

Congregational and Committee Meetings

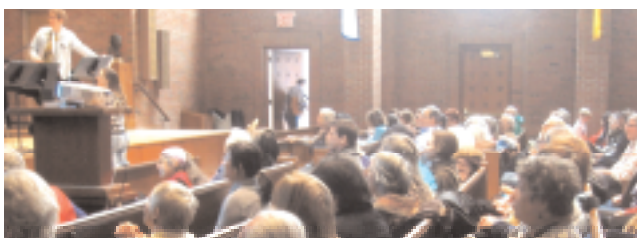
- **Buildings and Grounds – First Mondays, April 7 and May 5, 6-7:30 pm, Conference Room**
 - **Church Council – 2nd Wednesdays, April 9 and May 14, 6 pm Potluck / 6:30-7:30 Meeting, Gallery**
 - **Finance Committee – Third Wednesdays, April 16 and May 21, 6-8 pm, Gallery**
 - **Board of Trustees – 4th Wednesdays, April 23 and May 28, 6-9:30 pm, Gallery**
 - **UN and Global Affairs – First Sundays, April 6 and May 4, 9:45-10:45 am, Conference Room**
 - **Congregational Meeting – Budget Hearing, Sunday, May 18, 1-2:30 pm, Assembly Hall**
-

Pete Seeger Memorial Sing-along Concert

The Memorial Sing-Along for long time member Pete Seeger was held at Community Church on February 8. We offer deepest gratitude to our friend Erika Nonken and her host of volunteers for organizing the wonderful tribute. All the musicians, ushers, servers, and food contributors offered their time and tal-

ents in honor of Pete. A link to the many photos taken can be found on the home page of our website (near bottom, right side).

Another sing-along tribute will be held at the Peoples Voice Café on April 12, 8 pm, at Community.



Events Calendar for April 2014

TUESDAY, APRIL 1 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 6:30 Hellenic (Greek) Culture & Civilization WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2 6:30 Gallery35 Executive Meeting THURSDAY, APRIL 3 7:00 Secular Humanist Book Club FRIDAY, APRIL 4 6:30 Antiracism Team SATURDAY, APRIL 5 10:45 1st Saturday Feeding 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 3:00 Greek Language Class 6:00 Gallery35 Closing Reception 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, APRIL 6 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:45 UNGA Meeting 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:30 Young Adult Brunch	12:30 Justin Vranek Memorial 12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal 1:15 Resistance Cinema 2:00 Joel Mandelbaum Concert TUESDAY, APRIL 8 Life Line Screening 2:00 Memoir Group 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 6:30 Hellenic (Greek) Culture & Civilization 6:30 Great Questions 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9 6:00 Church Council Potluck 6:30 Church Council THURSDAY, APRIL 10 3:30 Life & Death Café 6:30 Faith Like a River Series 2 FRIDAY, APRIL 11 Spring Retreat departure	SATURDAY, APRIL 12 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 3:00 Greek Language Class 5:00 Gallery35 Closing Reception 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, APRIL 13 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal 1:15 Community Women 1:15 Action For Justice Forum Spring Retreat return TUESDAY, APRIL 15 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 6:30 Hellenic (Greek) Culture & Civilization WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16 6:00 Finance Cmte. Mtg. THURSDAY, APRIL 17 6:30 Faith Like a River (2) 7:30 UU Christian Fellowship	FRIDAY, APRIL 18 Office Closes at noon 7:00 Esperanto Society 7:30 Tenebrae Service SATURDAY, APRIL 19 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 3:00 Greek Language Class 5:00 Seder 6:00 Gallery35 Closing Reception SUNDAY, April 20 Easter Sunday 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:30 Young Adult Activity MONDAY, APRIL 21 6:30 Introduction of Humanism TUESDAY, APRIL 22 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 6:15 Moving The Heart & Mind 7:00 Streetsingers	WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23 6:00 Board of Trustees THURSDAY, APRIL 24 3:30 Life & Death Café 6:30 Faith Like a River (2) 6:30 Development of American UU Church FRIDAY, APRIL 25 6:30 Green Sanctuary Solar Salon SATURDAY, APRIL 26 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, APRIL 27 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:45 UNGA Luncheon 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 1:15 Resistance Cinema MONDAY, APRIL 28 6:30 NYC UU Ministers 6:30 Introduction of Humanism TUESDAY, APRIL 29 2:00 Social Tea 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani
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SAVE THE DATE

Meeting of the Congregational • Budget • Hearing
 Sunday, May 18, 12:45 pm in the Assembly Hall

Delegates Needed – UUA General Assembly and UU Metro District Annual Meeting

Voting members of Community Church are encouraged to apply to serve as delegates – General Assembly will be held in Providence, RI, June 25-29 and the UU Metro District Annual Meeting will be held in Morristown, NJ, May 2-3. Please pick up applications at the Welcome Table.

Adult Religious Education and Opportunities/Events Apr/May pages 8-10

Credits & Guidelines

Members are encouraged to submit articles to *Community Connections*. The submission deadline is the first Wednesday of the month prior to issue date. Submissions can be emailed Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator. Articles submitted are subject to proofing and editing for clarity, brevity, grammar, punctuation, spelling and content.

Events Calendar for May 2014

THURSDAY, MAY 1 6:30 Faith Like a River Series 2 6:30 Secular Humanist Society FRIDAY, MAY 2 6:30 Antiracism Team SATURDAY, MAY 3 10:45 1st Saturday Feeding 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 3:00 Greek Language Class 6:00 Gallery35 Opening Reception 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, MAY 4 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:45 UNGA Meeting 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:30 Young Adults Brunch 1:15 Action For Justice Sunday 1:15 Community Women Eco-Poetry MONDAY, MAY 5 6:00 Buildings & Grounds 7:00 Streetsingers TUESDAY, MAY 6 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani WEDNESDAY, MAY 7 6:30 Gallery35 Meeting	THURSDAY, MAY 8 3:30 Life & Death Café SATURDAY, MAY 10 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 6:00 Gallery35 Open House 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, MAY 11 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal 1:00 Community Womens Play Reading 1:15 Resistance Cinema TUESDAY, MAY 13 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 6:30 Great Questions 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY, MAY 14 6:00 Church Council Potluck 6:30 Church Council Meeting THURSDAY, MAY 15 7:30 UU Christian Fellowship FRIDAY, MAY 16 7:00 Esperanto Society SATURDAY, MAY 17 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 6:00 Gallery35 Open House 8:00 People's Voice Café	SUNDAY, MAY 18 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School Forum 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:30 Young Adult Activities 12:45 Budget Hearing MONDAY, MAY 19 7:00 Streetsingers TUESDAY, MAY 20 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani WEDNESDAY, MAY 21 6:00 Finance Committee THURSDAY, MAY 22 3:30 Life & Death Café FRIDAY, MAY 23 6:30 Green Sanctuary Film Series SATURDAY, MAY 24 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 6:30 Gallery35 Open House SUNDAY, MAY 25 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 1:15 Resistance Cinema	MONDAY, MAY 26 Memorial Day 6:30 Introduction to Humanism TUESDAY, MAY 27 2:00 Social Tea 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 6:15 Moving the Heart & Mind WEDNESDAY, MAY 28 6:00 Board of Trustees FRIDAY, MAY 30 6:30 Green Sanctuary Solar Salon SATURDAY, MAY 31 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 6:00 Gallery35 Open House
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Rev. Bruce Southworth, Senior Minister
 Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education
 Gerald A. Brown, Director of Music
 Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator
 Rev. Orlanda Brugnola, Affiliated Minister
 Interim Church Administrator
 Emily DeTar, Student Minister
 Rev. Dr. Anthony P. Johnson, Affiliated Minister



The Community Church of New York
Unitarian Universalist
 40 East 35th Street
 New York, N.Y. 10016
www.ccny.org
 Tel: 212.683.4988

ISSUE: FIFTY NINE
Here At Community, Opportunities, Calendars
and much more...
Deadline for Summer issue due Wednesday, May 7, 2014

COMMUNITY connections

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF NEW YORK
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Growing Souls, Doing Justice, and Being Bold in a Caring Community since 1825

Spring Issue 60 • Summer 2014

Summer Sundays 11 am Worship

Here At Community

Members' Birthdays
In Memoriam
Member's Poetry
Page 2

Here At Community

Members Out and About
Doing Global Good
at Community
Ellen Mandelbaum
Glass Art
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Planting at Community
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June 2014 Calendar
Credits & Guidelines
Page 12

MIDSUMMER Messiah

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3RD

Refreshments 12:30 pm

in the Assembly Hall

MidSummer Messiah Event
1:00 pm in the Assembly Hall

With Hosts

Rev. Dr. Hope Johnson
Dr. Janice Marie Johnson
and

Gerald A. Brown, Music Director
For more information please contact
Jerry Brown at jbrown@ccny.org
212 683-4988 ext. 33

Please join us for the Annual Midsummer Messiah 2014. We start off with a delicious light luncheon to suit many palates. With a sip of bubbly – non-alcoholic and alcoholic – before the Midsummer Messiah begins.

You are cordially invited to attend an inclusive, fun event that honors all voices! This event is in keeping with Community's mission statement, "To grow as a caring, justice-making, anti-racist, diverse, spiritual community." ~
Adopted January, 2003

You may ask, "What does our mission statement have to do with the Midsummer Messiah?" More than you would imagine! This is an example of "a mission *in action!*"

Enthusiasm trumps ability when you sing at the Midsummer Messiah! This is an opportunity to sing in a team setting, even if it's above your comfort zone. In the midst of our diversity, we share one thing in common—WE ALL LOVE TO SING! Everyone grows a little stronger when we sing together. Plus, we'll meet new people, see old friends and have a great time!

A little bit about The *Messiah*: First performed in 1742, Georg Friedrich Händel's *Messiah* is possibly the most often performed work of European Classical Music. The complete work is divided into three sections. The first section, commonly referred to as the Christmas portion, and is frequently performed along with the Hallelujah Chorus (from the third section) without the second and third parts. This is the version we perform on Christmas Eve at the Community Church of New York.

We also welcome all who enjoy music and want to participate in the Midsummer Messiah by joining the audience. There is a place for everyone at the Midsummer Messiah.

Jerry, Janice, and Hope are looking forward to welcoming you to the 2014 Midsummer Messiah!

Postscript: for those who enjoy Community trivia, here you go:

continued on page 9

HERE AT COMMUNITY

BIRTHDAYS

June 2014

- 1 Julie Abbruscato
- 3 Katie Karlovitz
- 7 Stephen Adeyinka
Otis Samuel Kerns
- 8 Kevin Maxwell
Kenly Dillard
- 12 Virginia Asman
Austin Publicover
- 16 Ellen Mandelbaum
- 17 George Marshall
- 19 Anita Monick
- 20 Barb Conkin
- 24 William Campbell, Jr.
- 26 Maria Velez-Lopez
- 30 Robert Reiss
Shelley Crandall

BIRTHDAYS

JULY 2014

- 2 Philip Patinka
- 3 Fred DeLisi
- 7 Dawn Stewart-Lookin
- 8 Jody Leight
- 10 Nina Bernstein
- 14 Priscilla Stadler
Lehna Huie
- 17 Eberly Mareci
- 27 Rachel Stone
- 28 Lisa Gluck
- 30 Jason Nunan
- 31 Peter Robinson, Jr.

BIRTHDAYS

August 2014

- 1 Karen Ethelsdattar
Charles Hymowitz
- 9 Maureen Holder
- 12 Evelen Hough
- 13 Jean Krampner
Phyllis Andrews
- 14 Kimberly Ball
- 1 Cheryl Walker
- 15 John Silver
Maddi Gutfreind
Heather Burgher
Winifred Zubin
Bill Rothfarb
- 21 Margery Johnston
- 24 Reena Kondo
Patricia Kolb
- 28 David Strachan
- 30 M. Bridget Brosnan

Member's Poetry

A GIFT

Flowering pear trees
Blooming along fourteenth street;
Nature's gift to us

Sandy Brooks

IN MEMORIAM

Nancy Ruckes passed away in late April at her home in Oregon. Nancy had been a member of Community for 26 years. She served on the Board of Trustees, Church Council, Building and Grounds Committee, Shelter Committee, and with Ushers and Greeters. Until her illness prevented her, she would be at church 2-3 times a week, even though the commute involved a bus ride and two subway transfers. Nancy also served the Metro District as a member of the Board of Trustees three times and was the recipient of the 2006 June Z. Gillespie Award. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends. We shall have a Memorial Service for Nancy in mid/late September when some of her family can be present.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

Members Out and About



I am announcing the publication of *Gambit: Newer African Writing*, a unique anthology of interviews and original short stories featuring ten writers from across the African continent. I am the co-editor of this book and I provide an introductory essay. The writers come from Nigeria, Somalia, Malawi, Zimbabwe, and Botswana. Several big name African writers have also provided blurbs for the book. One of the writers, Novuyo Rosa Tshuma, was just named by Oprah as one of her favorite writers from Africa.

"Gambit takes what we think we know about 'African' writing and spins it on its head." – Maaza Mengiste, author of *Beneath the Lion's Gaze*.

You can purchase a copy for \$19.95 at McNally Jackson Books, an independent bookstore in Manhattan. <http://www.mcnallyjackson.com/bookmachine/gambit-newer-african-writing-iduma-randol>

If anyone is interested in hosting a talk, please contact me at shaunrandol@yahoo.com.

Thanks and happy reading!
Shaun



Doing Global Good At Community

by George Garland

Yacouba Sawadogo went from his home in Burkina Faso to school in Mali where the main task was memorizing the Koran. In his own words, he utterly failed. When he left the school, he was called in by the Imam. I was expecting Yacouba to get yelled at. Instead, the Imam told Yacouba that everything would be fine.

Back home in Burkina Faso, Yacouba set about farming in the desert area surrounding his father's grave. Zia traditional farming calls for planting when the rainy season begins. Yacouba instead began hoeing the crusty earth and placing compost in his trenches. He had about ten acres so he needed to start well before the rainy season. Local neighbors were so angry at his temerity in ignoring traditional lore that they burned his entire crop later on when Yacouba went to the capital of Butrkina Faso to report on his success.

Why success? Rain will simply run off hard packed earth. If earth is broken and, better yet, organic matter is added, rain will be absorbed and held. Over ten acres, waiting for the rain to begin soil preparation for one person over ten acres is a non-starter. Compost amended soils also stimulate root growth so Yacouba's plants and trees has root balls up to ten times more than normal. This root system then holds water and nutrients beyond immediate rains and

Resistance Cinema recently brought *The Man Who Stopped the Desert* to Community Church.

allows a lush growth. International experts marveled at Yacouba's success and many visited to see what and how he did it.

At harvest time, many villagers helped with gathering millet and got crops as a reward. Seeds were saved for next season and a seed bank provided seed for many others. Generically modified plants which produce no seeds were not in evidence.

So what? Reversing desertification is a United Nations program (google REDD). Trees are the lungs of the plant and help combat global warming. Soil which absorbs water not only helps ground water recharge but also staves off soil erosion. Yacouba is one of a half billion farmers who make up maybe half of those on the planet making less than \$1 per day. An army of such folks stopping the desert is potentially our most effective plan for fighting global warming and global poverty.

Yacouba failed in his religious duty to memorize the Koran. He ignored traditional lore and reinvented Zia agricultural practice. He honored his father's grave by turning it from desert to ten acres of trees and crops. His unity with the forces of nature may be a lesson for all of us.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

ELLEN MANDELBAUM GLASS ART

GOOD NEWS

by Ellen Mandelbaum

Being an artist is not a steady job. There have been times when I'm particularly busy (now!) and times when I have been totally unemployed (the start of this year). Lately there have been quite a few exhibitions; small ones at Gallery 35 in New York City and large ones as part of LIC Open. You are most particularly invited to [visit my studio at LIC Open](#), one of the many artist-run events found around the city in the spring and fall. They are important to the artist communities, giving artists the opportunity to break out of the isolation of working alone. They are also a great way for newcomers to begin to show their work. The [2014 American Glass Guild Annual Conference](#) will be held June 26th-30th, on the campus of Bryn Athyn College in Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania, with access to the extraordinary historic stained glass collections at Glencairn Museum and Bryn Athyn Cathedral.

It will open with a "light show" on the evening of June 26th. Three renowned and architecturally distinct structures in the Bryn Athyn Historic District, all in exquisite settings, will be illuminated. I'm also exhibiting in [American Glass Now](#), a juried show at the conference, and giving a glass painting demonstration called [A Brush With Freedom](#). Most exciting: the [Women's International Glass Workshop](#) will have a tour of French stained glass. I'm delighted

that I'll be joining them for the Matisse Chapel near Nice and winding up with them at Monet's Gardens at Giverny, near Paris. **NEWS:** I'm pleased that the [Stained Glass Quarterly](#) of the Stained Glass Association of America has just published a copiously-illustrated ten-page [article about my work called "Living Stained Glass."](#) Look for it in the Spring 2014 issue. [The Newark Arts Council/Congregation Ahavas Sholom](#) synagogue arts competition Honorable Mention has been awarded for my skylight design. It was interesting to participate, and you can see the design and the chosen submissions at the website listed in the left column. Congratulations to the winning artists! It is especially gratifying to me that I've been asked to have [a one-person show](#), probably this

upcoming autumn, tentatively titled ["A Gathering of Friends."](#) It will be a "mini-retrospective" of oil paintings, water colors, and other works that had no audience at all when they were [first made in the sixties](#) when I was starting in New York. It will be very satisfying to have several early and beloved works out, to be seen for the first time in public.

[I think most artists have lived with lean times and times of plenty.](#) I'm grateful for the opportunities that have manifested recently. [I hope you will visit a](#)

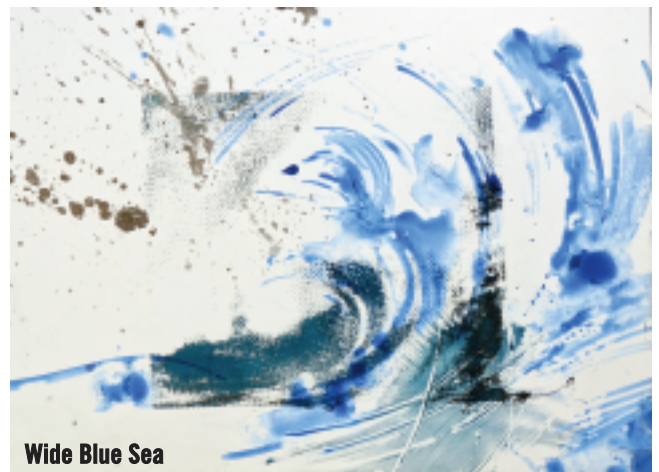
[few of the exhibits](#) — come to Open Studios in two weeks, and stay tuned, friends, for more information on "A Gathering of Friends" in a few months. Thanks!



Queens College Art Center and Library "Colors Of The Sky"



Marian Woods
Retirement Home for 5 Orders of Nuns



Wide Blue Sea

Guest Speaker Professor Carl Hart

by Russell Branca

Sunday May 4th was the annual Action For Justice Sunday at Community Church. The guest speaker was Columbia University Professor Carl Hart and the title of his talk was “Drugs, How We Got Hoodwinked”. As is customary Professor Hart gave the 11am morning sermon and then engaged folks in a lively Q&A at 1pm in the Assembly Hall.

Hart spoke eloquently about drugs and drug policy, two issues that are familiar to many people. What makes Hart’s approach different is that he brings a very specific scientific background to the topic. As a neuroscientist he has been involved in many research experiments on the effects of drugs and how they interact with the brain. Using test results he shows how many commonly held ideas about drugs are simply not true. One of his primary themes is that drugs in and of themselves are not nearly as dangerous as is assumed and that most people who use drugs are not addicts living self-destructive dysfunctional lives or acting irresponsibly. Addiction and the attendant negative behaviors are born out of a complex set of personal, social, and environmental factors.

Professor Hart is a staunch advocate for the decriminalization of drugs, a policy which he feels is inevitable. Much drug policy in the United States sadly rests on assumptions and stereotypes that have long been discredited scientifically and have unfairly been most punitive in poor communities and communities of color. In the Q&A Hart was able to more thoroughly expound on his work and his conclusions.

Most of what he had to say is included in his newest book which is part an autobiographical memoir chronicling his roots in a poor neighborhood of Miami and his rise to become the first tenured African American Professor in the Sciences at Columbia University. He remained afterwards to chat informally and sign copies of his book which were available for sale; *HIGH PRICE: A Neuroscientist's Journey of Self-Discovery That Challenges Everything You Know About Drugs and Society* (Harper, 2013).



HERE AT COMMUNITY



2014

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HERE AT COMMUNITY

Community Planting



Cooking with Gas

by Gusti Bogok

My husband tells me I'm a good cook and we often shop at the Union Square farmer's market in our neighborhood or at Whole Foods, buying locally grown organic food whenever possible. We prepare most of our meals at home, not only for health reasons, but also because I tend to be a very selective, or some might say finicky, eater.

So when the announcement from FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) came that the Spectra pipeline was going online on November 1, 2013, I was upset.

The pipeline would potentially bring radioactive radon-laced fracked gas from Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale layer* into New York City's stoves, boilers and laundromats, carrying with it the deadly element radon. I had known that this day might eventually come but had hoped against all odds that somehow it would not.

As an environmental activist, I'd been aware of the proposed Spectra pipeline crossing the Hudson River from New Jersey and entering Manhattan's West Village treacherously close to a children's playground. For over two years, I'd spent countless volunteer hours with other New York City environmentalists, leafleting the neighborhood and participating in forums to warn the community about its dangers, and Spectra Energy's abysmal safety record. As co-chair of the Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter's Gas Drilling Task Force, I'd helped launch a lawsuit on behalf of Sierra Club against Spectra Energy, the builder of the pipeline, and understood its dangers in detail.

So news of the pipeline going active was bad and sent me into a panic. Radon is the leading cause of lung and brain cancers in non-smokers.

Effective immediately, I was going to have to give up or modify many of my cooking and eating habits. I sprang into action, hurriedly cancelling the gas portion of our bill with Con Edison. I then asked the superintendent of our building to physically shut off our

kitchen gas meter, and the valve on the gas pipe leading to our stove. I sent my husband on a mission to Macy's, Queens to purchase the only available non-toxic water kettle, and a single electric burner for use in lieu of our stove. It was a nerve-wracking couple of days while we hustled to complete these tasks. But I knew that taking these actions would spare us from possible exposure to radon. I did not want to leave it to chance.

When it was all done, I sighed a huge sigh of relief. For now, we had dodged a bullet. If turning off the gas is what it took to remain safe in our home, I was resolved to do it and my husband agreed. To avoid exposure to radon, we would gladly change our habits and eat more raw foods, even if it meant foregoing cherished customary dishes, like my hearty home made bone broth soups, simmered lovingly over many hours on a low gas flame, or our delicious oven-roasted turkey or roast goose during the holidays.

The sad truth is we live in extraordinary times, as corporations and government agencies work full tilt against our common interests, and the ordinary act of switching on your gas burner to boil water for tea or cook a hot meal could become a life-threatening hazard.

*Note: The Marcellus Shale layer, which lies beneath large swaths of Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio, contains substantial deposits of methane or "natural gas" and has become a prime target for the oil and gas industry. Apart from the intrinsically hazardous and destructive nature of the gas drilling process called hydrofracking or "fracking" used to mine the shale, high levels of radioactive radium and uranium contained in the Marcellus shale layer also pose grave risks. Scientists have confirmed that the gas mined from the Marcellus region will carry higher levels of the dangerous element radon with it, and since the travel time from neighboring PA to NYS is brief, the radon will have little time to decay.

To learn more, visit: www.saneenergyproject.org

Gusti Bogok, Chair
The Green Sanctuary Committee, CCNY, UU

HERE AT COMMUNITY



Filtered Thru The Artist's Eye

Closing Reception June 21 ~ 6-8 pm

View inner and outer worlds as envisioned by thirteen artists comprise Gallery35's Annual Art Showcase. The exhibit features art in a variety of styles and subjects as the artists present highlights of their best work. Media include oils, watercolor, digital, sculpture, stained glass and fabric arts.

Join exhibiting artists Virginia Asman, Naomi Blum, Marilyn Boddewyn, Cari Clare, Susan Harris-Demmet, Patricia Garbarini, Pat Gericke, Ellen Mandelbaum, Kevin Maxwell, Jody Leight, Susan Lennon, Rick Perez, Bev Thompson for the final exhibit of 2013-2014!

Coming Next Fall!

Gallery 35 will be celebrating its 10th Anniversary!

A special exhibit showing the work of past and present members is tentatively scheduled to open on September 13th! Watch Community's announcements for updates!



continued from front page

When was the first Messiah in which everyone was invited to sing? For many years, until that special date, paid singers had performed it.

When was the first Midsummer Messiah performed? At that time, we wanted to open it up to folks who could not participate on Christmas Eve!

Answer Key:

The first *Messiah* in which anyone could sing was 1993. It had been done with paid singers for many years until 1989. The first Midsummer Messiah was in 2008.



USED BIKES NEEDED

Our New Sanctuary family has 6 kids who do not know how to ride a bike!! Mohammed is now 8 and Fanta is now 18 and the other 4 kids are in between, so pretty much any size will work. We would be so grateful if any of you have any working bikes to donate to this family – something your kids might have outgrown or gone off to college and left behind, maybe? Now that they have a stable home we can move on to quality of life issues!! Please let me know: Leonore Tiefer: 212-533-2774 or LTiefer@mindspring.com.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2014

Religious Education/Family Ministries Celebration/Picnic
Sunday, June 8, 12:30 pm, Front & Rear Lounge and Backyard

Yoga with Nafisa Degani

Tuesdays, through August 26, 6-7:30 pm, Rear Lounge and
Saturdays, through August 30, 12:30-2 pm, Rear Lounge

Hatha Yoga is a branch of yoga which concentrates on physical health and mental well-being. Hatha yoga uses bodily postures (asanas), breathing techniques (pranayama), and meditation (dyana) with the goal of bringing about a sound, healthy body and a clear, peaceful mind. There are nearly 200 hatha yoga postures, with hundreds of variations, which work to make the spine supple and to promote circulation in all the organs, glands, and tissues. Hatha yoga postures also stretch and align the body, promoting balance and flexibility with very slow controlled movements.

UN and Global Affairs Committee

Sunday, June 1, 9:30 a.m., Assembly Hall

We are celebrating World Environment Day with two guest speakers as part of our final meeting before summer. The last part of the meeting, we hope to honor the interconnected web of life with a spiritual ceremony (Native American style) by the church garden at 10:30 am before the Worship Service begins.

Introduction to Humanism – Mondays, June 2, and 30, 6:30-9 pm, Rear Lounge

June 2: *Understanding Why America's Underclass Hates Science, Reason and Us*

June 30: Topic to be announced soon.

Resistance Cinema June Schedule – (No Films July/August)

Sunday June 8: *MONEY FOR NOTHING: Inside The Federal Reserve*

Sunday June 15 – TBA – As part of AFJ Forum.

A Midsummer Day's Dream *Messiah* – Sunday, August 3, 12:45 to 3 pm, Assembly Hall

Here's your summer opportunity to have a great time singing the choruses from the Christmas portion of the *Messiah*, plus the Hallelujah Chorus. There will be a light lunch to the backdrop of nostalgic and fun videotapes of some of our earlier musical events. Then everyone is welcome to sing! If you prefer not to sing, come and join the audience. Hosts: Jerry Brown, Rev. Dr. Hope Johnson and Dr. Janice Marie Johnson. Please RSVP jbrown@ccny.org or call Jerry at 212-683-4988 ext. 33..

First Saturday Feeding of the Hungry in the Bowery

Saturdays, June 7, July 5 and August 2, 10:45 am-12 pm, Offsite

We invite you to help the Sai Baba Group feed the hungry on the First Saturday of each month. We meet on Forsyth, just south of Houston at 10:45 am. Please bring vegetarian food to share with the over 100 people who come. This is an outdoor event so dress for the weather. For more information contact Valerie Lynch at vlynch@ccny.org or 212-683-4988, ext. 19.

Secular Humanist Society of New York Book Club

First Thursdays, 7-9 pm, Front Lounge – with holiday changes

June 5: *Gods in the Global Village: The World's Religions in Sociological Perspective* by Lester R. Kurtz

July 10: *THE AGE OF ATHEISTS: How We Have Sought to Live Since the Death of God* by Peter Watson

August 7: Title to be announced soon

Some of us have dinner together afterwards at a nearby (inexpensive) restaurant. Join us even if you haven't finished reading. The book club is open to all ... and free!

Life and Death Café

Thursday, June 12 and 22 – 3:30-5:30 pm, Chapel

It's not a support group, or a counseling session, but rather gathering of people in a relaxed, comfortable atmosphere, sharing respectful, thought provoking and life affirming conversation – and yes, sipping coffee/tea and treats. What is Death? How does thinking about death improve my life? How can we prepare for our own death? What are some essential documents before you die? What's a green burial? And much more! The class fee will be \$5 per session. Questions? Contact Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education – erosado@ccny.org or 212-683-4988, ext 23.

Juneteenth – Friday June 20, 5:30-9 pm, Gallery & Rears Lounge

We are pleased to announce Kim Harris will be joining us again this year for our annual Juneteenth celebration. Last year both Kim and Reggie Harris engaged us in African-American Spirituals and Freedom song. This year Kim will combine music and storytelling rooted in folk and gospel legacy.

We will also have Eric Coleman, Vera Lily and Brenda Carpenter presenting poetry and dance. Please join us for this wonderful family event, and bring a side dish, beverage or dessert to share

Green Sanctuary – Solar Salon Series

Friday, June 27, 6:30 pm, Gallery.

Programs will be announced soon. No meetings July/August.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2014 continued

Anti-Racism Team

Friday, June 6, 6:30 pm, Gallery

Film to be announced. No meetings July/August.

UU Christian Fellowship

Thursday, June 19, 7:30-9 pm. No meetings July/August.

Moving Beyond Doubting Thomas is the topical focus for our 2013-2014 meetings. Together we will be discussing the Nag Hammadi discovery of The Gospel of Thomas, using religious scholar Ron Miller's text *The Gospel of Thomas: A Guidebook for Spiritual Practice*, Elaine Pagel's *Beyond Belief: The Secret Gospel of Thomas* and Hal Taussig's *A New New Testament*. Our inquiries into this material will be kept open-ended, so people can explore personal concerns as well as religious matters at the MNY-UUCF chapter meetings.

Introduction to Meditation – Sunday, July 13, 12:30-2 pm, Chapel

Facilitated by Maureen Chen, long-time friend of Community.

Esperanto Society

Friday, June 20, 7 pm, Third Fl. Classroom

Everyone is welcome. Come immerse in a new language.

No meetings July/August.

Social Tea

On Summer Break – Join us in the Fall for conversation, light refreshments and guest speakers.

Great Questions – Tuesday, June 10, 6:15-7:45 pm

Facilitated by Rev. Orlanda Brugnola

What Do We Need To Grow?

Young Adult Activities

Starting up again in the Fall – Young adults will meet for brunches and for community service projects. Watch for future announcements.

Gallery35 Spring Art Show – Saturdays, Gallery

Art Showcase 2014: "FILTERED THRU THE ARTIST'S EYE"

Open by Appointment, June 7 and 14, Closing Reception June 21, 6-8 pm, Gallery

Our 2013/2014 season will conclude with our second annual "art showcase" highlighting the best representative work of the artists of the Gallery35. The exhibited art will depict a variety of subjects rendered innovatively in all of the various media. Cards and gift items created by the artists will again be available at the "Gallery Shop."

Also Coming this Summer

Grief Support Group

Sundays, July 27, August 10 and 24, 1-2:15 pm, Chapel

Chair Yoga – Sundays, June 22, July 6 and 20,

August 3, 17 and 31, 1-2:15 pm, Chapel

Congregational and Committee Meetings

Quarterly Congregational Meeting – Sunday, June 1, 1-3 pm, Assembly Hall

Buildings and Grounds – First Mondays, June 2, 6-7:30 pm, Conference Room

Church Council – 2nd Wednesdays, June 11, 6 pm Potluck 6:30-7:30 Meeting, Gallery

Finance Committee – Third Wednesdays, June 18, 6-8 pm, Gallery

Board of Trustees – Wednesday, July 2, 6 pm

UN and Global Affairs – First Sundays, June 1, 9:45-10:45 am, Conference Room

No Other Meetings Scheduled for July/August at this time

A Special Thank You To Community's Office Volunteers

- George Martin is here Monday and Wednesday mornings.
- Russell Branca volunteers Wednesday afternoon
- Sal Seda is here Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

These wonderful volunteers help with answering the phone and the busy doorbell. George, Russell and Sal also help with stuffing/labeling our many publications and mailings.

We would appreciate more office volunteers especially on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday afternoon, and Friday morning/afternoon. If you have time available during the day, please consider offering your gift of time. It gives the staff a chance to get to know you better too. That is the best gift of all.

If you can help, please be in touch with Valerie Lynch, our Membership Co-ordinator at 212-683-4988.

Events Calendar for June 2014

SUNDAY, JUNE 1 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 UN Global Affairs Mtg. 10:30 UN Global Affairs World Environment Day 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 1:00 Congregational Quarterly Meeting MONDAY, JUNE 2 6:00 Buildings & Grounds 6:30 Introduction to Humanism TUESDAY, JUNE 3 7:00 Streetsingers THURSDAY, JUNE 5 7:00 Secular Humanist Society FRIDAY, JUNE 6 6:30 Antiracism Team SATURDAY, JUNE 7 10:45 1st Saturday Feeding 6:00 Gallery35 - by appointment	SUNDAY, JUNE 8 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Membership Committee 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:00 RE Sunday/Picnic 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal 1:15 Resistance Cinema TUESDAY, JUNE 10 6:15 Great Questions 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11 6:00 Church Council Potluck 6:30 Church Council Mtg. THURSDAY, JUNE 12 3:30 Life & Death Café SATURDAY, JUNE 14 6:00 Gallery35 by appointment	SUNDAY, JUNE 15 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal 1:00 Action For Justice Forum 1:15 Resistance Cinema TUESDAY, JUNE 17 7:00 Gallery35 Meeting WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18 6:00 Finance Cmte. Meeting THURSDAY, JUNE 19 7:30 UU Christian Fellowship FRIDAY, JUNE 20 5:00 Juneteenth 7:00 Esperanto Society SATURDAY, JUNE 21 6:00 Gallery35 Closing Reception	SUNDAY, JUNE 22 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal 1:00 Chair Yoga TUESDAY, JUNE 24 6:15 Great Questions 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25 UUA General Assembly Providence, RI THURSDAY, JUNE 26 3:30 Life & Death Café UUA General Assembly See UUA.org FRIDAY, JUNE 27 6:30 Green Sanctuary Solar Salon Series UUA General Assembly SATURDAY, JUNE 28 UUA General Assembly	SUNDAY, JUNE 29 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour UUA General Assembly MONDAY, JUNE 30 6:30 Introduction to Humanism WEDNESDAY, JULY 2 6:00 Board of Trustees FRIDAY, JULY 4 Fourth of July Holiday Church Office/Building Closed SATURDAY, JULY 5 10:45 1st Saturday Feeding SUNDAY, JULY 6 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:45 UN Global Affairs 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour MONDAY, JULY 7 Church Office Summer Hours 9 am to 5:30 pm Monday to Thursday July 5th through August 29th
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**FOR MORE Adult Religious Education and June/July/August
(Summer) Opportunities/Events see pages 10-11**

Rev. Bruce Southworth, Senior Minister
 Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education
 Rev. Dr. Orlanda Brugnola, Affiliated Minister
 Interim Administrator
 Gerald A. Brown, Director of Music
 Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator

COMMUNITY
connections

The Community Church of New York
 Unitarian Universalist
 40 East 35th Street
 New York, N.Y. 10016
www.ccny.org
 Tel: 212.683.4988



Have A Great Summer!

ISSUE: 60

Our Community, Here At Community, Calendars
 and much more...

Deadline for September issue due August 6, 2014

Credits & Guidelines

Members are encouraged to submit articles to *Community Connections*. The submission deadline is the first Wednesday of the month prior to issue date. Submissions can be emailed Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator. Articles submitted are subject to proofing and editing for clarity, brevity, grammar, punctuation, spelling and content.



Issue 61 • September 2014

Celebrate Community's Homecoming Morning Worship 11 am September 14, 2014

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Here At Community

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Join Us For



**The Annual
Activities & Committees Fair ~ September 28**

HERE AT COMMUNITY

Welcome New Members

Lisa DeCaprio
Nicole Dietrich, John and Jack Kraska
Heriberto Rosario
Charles Sherrara
Neil F. Worden

Members Out and About

Lois Ross: *My Summer Road Scholar Trip:* – This has been one of the hottest and most humid summers, I've ever experienced. I desperately need to get away and have a change of scenery and cool off in the mountains. I haven't done anything exciting yet. But on August 4th through the 9th I'm going on a Road Scholar Trip to the Berkshires. Each day we will be doing something different and interesting. On day two, we are going to hear a concert in Tanglewood, On day 3 we are going to see a dance concert at a place called "Jacob's Pillow". On day 4 we will go to the Clark Museum to see the latest exhibit of paintings, and on day 5 we will go to the theatre to see a play. You may be wondering about the fact that this is a 6 day trip. Well, I think the first day will be spent getting acquainted and the last day we will spend going home. I have a friend who has already gone on this trip and had a wonderful time. I'm looking forward to it.

Laurie James directs *Heartblood*, which will be performed at Julie's Reading Room, 670 West End Avenue, Apt. #16A. September 16 from 7:00 sharp - 9:30 pm. An American woman immigration judge must rule on a case wherein an African father requests asylum in the United States for himself and his daughter in order to prevent her from being subjected to FGM/FGC. Story is fiction, based on fact.

RSVP Laurie 212-563-5523

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Michelle Asencio
2 Jeannette Juanita Gilmore
4 Carol Apicella
Barbara Phillips
Molly Scott
7 Hope Johnson
Janice Marie Johnson
8 David Asencio
11 Jil Novenski
14 Rakisha White
15 Marvin Carlson
18 Robert McNatt
20 Kay Xanthakos
22 Anthony Torchio
Christopher Asencio
23 Renee Morelli
27 Laretta Jakobsen
28 Denise Mumm
29 Samuel Gale

IN MEMORIAM

A Memorial Service for **Nancy Ruckes** will be held on Sunday, September 28 at 1:15 pm in the Hall of Worship. Nancy passed away in late April at her home in Oregon. She had been a member of Community for 26 years. She served on the Board of Trustees, Building and Grounds Committee, Shelter Committee, and on the Church Council. She also was an usher and greeter for many years. Nancy also served the Metro District as a member of the Board of Trustees three times over the past 34 years and was the recipient of the 2006 June Z. Gillespie Award. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Donations in lieu of flowers:

- Queens County Farm Museum

Make check out to Queens County Farm Museum – **be sure to mark check memo Nancy Ruckes**

Mail to: 75-30 Little Neck Parkway, Glen Oaks, NY 11004

or • Church Shelter – Make check out to Community Church – **be sure to mark check memo BJ's Place**

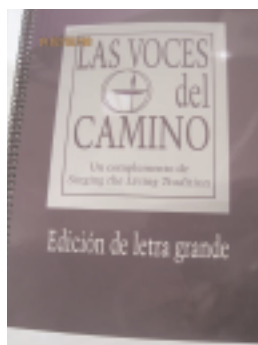
My GA, 2014

By Leonore Tiefer

I love learning, I love theater, I love being challenged. So I can't begin to describe all the wonderful moments at GA for me – wandering through the exhibit area, going to sessions on spirituality, congregational life and social justice issues, meeting the Community Church of NY group for lunch, learning about the exciting new charismatic music-centered ministries like Sanctuary Boston <http://thesanctuaryboston.org/> and Awake (<http://awakeministries.us/>) Here are just a few tastes of my days in Providence, RI.



In the huge exhibit area, a person read my nametag, and said, "Are you related to Charles Tiefer?" It was Bob Bacon, California UU, who works for UUs Against the Death Penalty (AADP). Not only had he been an office mate of my brother, Charles, in 1978, when both were beginning lawyers in Washington, but it turned out I am a close friend of a dear colleague of his on anti-death penalty work. We exchanged cards and had a lovely chat about many things!



I was very moved by one of the hymns we sang in the giant worship services (they filled a space the size of Madison Square Garden – I tell you, HUGE). "When the poor ones, who have nothing, still are giving; When the thirsty, pass the cup, water to share." It was sung in Spanish, then English and it had a gorgeous and haunting melody. "Cuando El Pobre" is its

name. I went up to the musician playing keyboards after the session and asked about the hymn. He handed me the sheets of music to keep (how sweet was that?!!) and said it was in "the purple hymnal – you know, the Spanish one!" I went to the GA bookstore and took a picture of the hymnal – of course it turns out Jerry has it. (You can hear the beautiful hymn on YouTube – of course <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YYt8jeBin50>). Please, Jerry, let's sing this one. I have memorized the hymn. It reminds me so much of the spirit of Helene Lightbourne whom I miss all the time.

I went to so many wonderful sessions with thoughtful speakers on interesting topics. I can't begin to describe them all. One on



"Sacred Activism" introduced me to spiritual practices including Hindu and Islamic chanting. While the speaker recited "the 99 beautiful names of Allah" we in the audience chanted "Allah" over and over and over and

over again. This took me quite far out of my comfort zone, which was a good experience. I took a photo of a Christian image to remember the session.

A session on "Mental Health Issues" was packed, with people sitting in the aisles. This happened a lot. An extraordinary Community Minister named Katie Norris from Ohio (here's her photo from her



blog, www.bipolarspirit.com) shared her own complicated mental health history alongside her husband and 10 year old son. She took all kinds of questions from the floor about how the UU message "Love reaches out" actually works out in congregational life when members have mental illnesses that impact their behavior, motivation, and

participation. How can we make all people welcome in our congregations? Rev. Katie is a real talent.

Another breathtaking speaker in a completely packed room was Aviva Chomsky (daughter of you-know-who) who spoke about her



new book "Undocumented: *How Immigration Became Illegal*." She argued that we must, of course, engage in humanitarian work to help immigrants (cf. our supportive work with our Sanctuary family, Fatoumata Gassama and her children), but we must also look at the root causes of migration – war, trade agreements,

and middleclass American markets for cheap services and cheap food that's supplied by an every changing underclass. A main point – social justice initiatives must incorporate how the US economy as currently operating actually needs an undocumented category. Immigration reform legislation needs to be clever, and she recommended local and state initiatives. We should read this book.

There's a lot more, but I can't spend the whole day writing this. P.S. I plan to go to Portland next year. GA is a festival – I last went in 1999 and I'm sorry I waited so long.

Walking Toward Trouble

By George Garland

Walking Toward Trouble The Dunk Arena, home to Providence College hockey and basketball games and decorated with banners from many Jesuit schools, was the scene where Ware Lecturer Sister Simone Campbell received a rock star welcome from the vast majority of the 5,000 UU's who attended General Assembly. Sister Simone had protested the Ryan budget cuts to programs for the poor and campaigned for immigration reform with the Nuns on the Bus.

Sister Simone began by reassuring the many members of the audience who had attended theological school that such training would not prevent them from being agents of change. Yet great thoughts needed to descend from the head to the heart. As one walked toward trouble, certitude would be forsaken for surprise and doubt. She gave many examples of learning by listening.

The 1% At a conference on fundraising, Sister Simone sat next to a billionaire who paid his employees a living wage and got loyalty and low turnover in return. He was angry that his competitors paid wages which required their employees to use food stamps and go on Medicaid. She found a new argument for minimum wage by listening even to the 1%.

Trafficking She heard from a woman at a conference on trafficking who had lost her husband in a Muslim country where she herself could not work. A mother of 6 children, she had her sons work the streets shining shoes and making money as best they could.

When this was not feeding her family, she sold her eldest daughter so the others could survive. Both the woman and Sister Simone cried at this family tragedy. Sister Simone had a new perspective on those who sell a child.

Immigration A Congressman was about to address a crowd in San Antonio on immigration reform when his 8 year old son bounded up to the stage to greet his dad. The Congressman said he couldn't give the prepared speech and instead talked of the wonder at his son's birth and the clear mission he felt to protect his family at any cost. Sister Simone had also experienced people sacrificing for this mission in Lebanon where thousands were in cramped detention camps in hopes of finding a better life. She told of a woman found in a culvert near the border who had an infant under her body—both dead. The desire for a better life, the same for a Congressman and a woman seeking a better life, here and abroad.

Iraq Sister Simone attended a conference in Iraq and at the same hotel a wedding reception was in progress. Invited to join, she was asked by the host how long the US would give his new family a chance to enjoy life. The US invaded Iraq a few days later.

"Walking Toward Trouble" with an open heart, ready for surprise, a friend of doubt. Asked by Sister Simone, "What are the first three words of the Declaration of Independence?", the audience responded in unison "We The People!" Sister Simone concluded that individualism is un-American, America is all about Community!



A Community Luncheon at General Assembly

Photo by Linda Novenski

UUA General Assembly 2014

The “Business” of GA 2014

By Gregory A. Jones

One of the things I appreciate about our annual UUA General Assembly is the opportunity to participate in the general (or “plenary”) sessions – the business meeting – of our denomination and its voting delegates. Far from being dry and boring, I see the general sessions as democracy in action. They are the living embodiment and expression of our UU Fifth Principle, “We affirm and promote...The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.”

Occasionally, the general sessions at GA can be rancorous – democracy, after all, “can be a messy thing.” While I can’t characterize GA 2014 as being completely harmonious, it was overwhelmingly so. Under the excellent guidance of Jim Key, UUA Moderator, discussions and deliberations of business items were respectful and thoughtful. Clearly, delegates had the best interests of our UU members, congregations, and society in their minds and hearts.

Following is an overview of key actions taken by the delegates at GA 2014:

- **Escalating Inequality** was selected as the Congregational Study/Action Issue (CSAI) for 2014-15. This CSAI addresses growing inequality broadly, in all its economic, social, racial, political, and moral dimensions.
- **Fossil Fuel Divestment** of funds in the UUA Common Endowment Fund was approved by a large majority. The divestment resolution requires annual reporting on implementation progress (for the period of 2015-2019). It also allows the UUA’s

investment managers to retain sufficient holdings in energy securities to ensure future engagement in shareholder activism.

- **Actions of Immediate Witness** were adopted on three issues: 1) UUA support for a “New Underground Railroad” to safely extract LGBTQ people from persecution in Uganda; 2) Affirmation of UU congregational commitment to gun violence prevention; and 3) Support for a “Pray for Relief Faith Summit on Stopping Deportations,” addressing the crisis of unaccompanied minor children crossing into the United States.
- **Amendments to UUA Bylaws** were given final approval to 1) permit regions as possible units of geographic responsibility; 2) grant authority to the UUA to hold funds for the benefit of others (congregations, associated and affiliated organizations, etc.); and 3) modify Section C-2.3 language on inclusion in order to clarify a phrase with negative legal implications.
- **Amendment of Assembly Rule on Non-discrimination** was approved, broadening application of UUA non-discrimination and inclusion standards without regard to “racialized-identity, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sex, disability, affectional or sexual orientation, family and relationship structures, age, language, citizenship status, or national origin and without requiring adherence to any particular interpretation of religion or to any particular religious belief or creed.”
- **Elections of the Financial Advisor and new members of the UUA Board of Trustees** were done by acclamation, as none of the seats were contested.

Complete reports on GA 2014 Business and Social Witness activities are available on the UUA web site at: <http://uua.org/ga/virtual/2014/business/index.shtml>

Photo: Fay Bennett Lord and Ray Olive Clark at General Assembly in Rhode Island



UUA General Assembly 2014

Love Reaches Out at the UUA General Assembly

By Linda Novenski

I was looking for information and I found inspiration at the UUA General Assembly in Providence, RI in June. When I volunteered to be a delegate this year, my spiritual batteries were certainly in need of a charge, but my main objective was to learn more about the workings of the UUA which guides and supports congregations all over the world. I have been a member of Community Church of NY for six years. This was my opportunity to bring back to our congregation some of what I learned and experienced.

The tone of "Community" was set at the opening celebration. Carrying the Community Church banner, I was joined by our senior minister, Bruce Southworth and his wife, Kay Xanthakos, and member, Gregory Jones. It was a joyful march through the arena filled with thousands of other UU's from around the world.

If you visit uua.org, you can enjoy the many videos, photos, talks and reports that engaged us all over the 5 days of the Assembly. I highly recommend the Ware Lecture, delivered by Sister Simone Campbell as well as Rev. Mark Stringer's Sunday Morning Worship talk, which considered "what gets in the way of UUs living the religion that reaches out in love". [Editor's note: Rev. Mark Stringer mentioned he found Unitarian Universalism at Community Church.

While with us, he taught in our Sunday School before embracing his call to ministry and entering seminary.]

The Young Adults at GA (YA@GA) infused powerful energy throughout the General Sessions and workshops. One of the highlights for me was the Bridging Ceremony. To see and hear from so many youth (over 100 young adults were "bridged") who are carrying the banner of Justice and Love into their communities, into the world, was especially uplifting and hopeful.

As a delegate, I voted on the business resolution to Divest in Fossil Fuel, which passed. Delegates also voted for three out of five Actions of Immediate Witness. The three that passed were: Stop Deportations, Support the Global Climate Treaty, and Support the Underground Railroad for LGBTs in Ghana.

Love indeed reaches out. And living our UU principles means reaching out, with love and engaging with our community, our world, to promote justice, equity and compassion. I would be happy to meet with anyone interested in hearing more, or looking over the Annual General Assembly program book.

The first European Union GA will be held in 2017. The country has not yet been decided, but what a wonderful opportunity to reach out beyond our country's borders to connect worldwide. Think about being a delegate!

HERE AT COMMUNITY

WITH APPRECIATION AND BEST WISHES TO THE REV. DR. ANTHONY JOHNSON



Over the past eight years, Tony has assisted me and us as an Affiliated Minister, providing occasional pastoral, program, and worship support, for which I am very grateful.

In recent years, his primary calling has been as a full-time Interim Parish Minister. Last year, he began that service with the Unitarian Universalist congregation in Clearwater, Florida and had much more limited time here. In our discussing the upcoming year, Tony let me know that he will continue with the Clearwater UUs. Also, in his evaluating his time and priorities and in considering the nature of affiliated ministry, we concurred not to continue his Affiliated Minister relationship. He and I do so with mutual appreciation for the opportunities and service shared.

We offer him our thanks for past service at Community and best wishes in his ministry!

P.S. And yes, Rev. Dr. Orlanda Brugnola, who offers us so much continues as Affiliate Minister.

The Ethelwyn Doolittle Justice and Outreach Fund A Vital Contribution to World Justice

Each year the Community Church of New York through the Ethelwyn Doolittle Justice and Outreach Fund awards grants to charitable organizations outside of the Community Church that provide essential community services. These organizations must provide direct assistance or advocacy to designated communities in need. Their work must also fall within the areas of human rights, civil liberties, racial justice and/or environmental concerns. All organizations must have current 501.c. 3 designations.

After careful consideration and deliberation, grants were awarded in 2014 to the following organizations:

Lawyers Without Borders – to create and provide programs to prevent and end human trafficking and exploitation through education. The program is designed to educate at-risk individuals about how to avoid becoming victims and high-risk communities about how to report human trafficking or exploitation.

The Community Service Society of N.Y. – to provide funding for CSS's mentorship programs. The program provides mentoring to children and youth whose parents are incarcerated and/or who are currently in alternatives to detention programs, focusing on breaking cycles of actual or potential recidivism and on acquiring academic and social skills.

Unitarian Universalists for Justice in the Middle East – to assist the UUJME in its efforts to educate Unitarian Universalist congregations about the ongoing Israel-Palestine conflict, the associated humanitarian issues, and the ways in which UUs may play more active roles in bringing about peace, security, equality, and dignity for all concerned.

First Friends Corp. of N.J. & N.Y. – to assist in providing services to immigrants in detention and asylum seekers seeking release into the community. The funding is to be used for general support of their program for immigrant communities and to help expand their network by recruiting and deploying more volunteers.

WBAI, FM is the singular listener-supported progressive radio station surviving in NYC. It is a voice for under-represented

communities. The grant is to be used for general operating support that will contribute to their transmitter fees and keep WBAI broadcasting on the air.

Bronx Freedom Fund is the first licensed charitable bail organization in New York State. The grant is to assist the charity in providing bail assistance to indigent Bronx residents allowing them to return home to their families, win better dispositions of their cases, and avoid the serious consequences of jail time.

Negro Aviators International, Inc. was founded in 1967 by members of the Tuskegee Airmen to increase opportunities for young men and women less likely to be exposed to careers in aviation. The grant will specifically assist in funding the July "Days in the Woods" program for youth ages 8-12 years. The program is eclectic, educational, and inclusive of cultural, scientific and environmental projects and will reach about 200 inner-city low-income youth.

Interfaith Impact of NYS is a statewide coalition of congregations and individuals from many faith traditions working to encourage progressive religious advocacy with State Legislature, Executive Chamber and State agencies. The grant is to provide both a stipend to an IINYS Foundation Outreach Coordinator as well as print and web-based resources to connect with UU congregations across the state to build the state advocacy network.

Correctional Association Of NY monitors conditions in the New York State prisons and engages in advocacy to reform the criminal justice system. This award is to be used for their "Raise the Age" campaign to move children under 18 out of the adult justice and prison system; advocacy aiming to improve safety for children in the system; JJP's Safe Passages leadership program for system-involved LGBTQ youth and the Safety Initiative.

Nominations forms for next year will be available on Community's website by mid-September. The Committee's aim is to objectively review and respond to each nomination and application accordingly.

Doolittle Committee
Rose Crayton, Chairperson

Gallery35 — 10th Anniversary

By Bev Thompson

Gallery35 — dubbed the “secret gallery” of Murray Hill—is quickly approaching its 10th Anniversary Show with a Celebratory Opening and Reception on September 13 between 6-8 pm. The show will be open for viewing throughout the month with a Closing Reception on November 1 from 6-8 pm.

The gallery has a venerable history, with its first exhibition held in September 1966 as part of the dedication of Community Church of New York’s renovated brownstones at 26, 28 and 30 East 35th Street. During the next 20 years, the gallery — then known as “Community Gallery”—celebrated diversity by exhibiting the works of Native American, Murray Hill and Chinese artists. One notable show featured a series of John Henry oil paintings by Harlem Renaissance artist Palmer Hayden.

In 2004, a small group of artists from Community Church joined together and began mounting an annual exhibition of their work.

As gallery membership grew, the number of exhibits expanded to 5 or 6 solo and group shows each year from September through June.

An annual exhibit features the work of such groups as displaced or refugee artists from such countries as Iraq, Burma and Haiti. In 2010, the name of Community’s art group was changed to **Gallery35**. Today over 20 artists, including several Murray Hill residents, regularly exhibit with **Gallery35**. The collective includes several nationally known, award-winning and classically-trained artists, as well as artists who have had solo shows throughout the country.

Please join us for this 10th Anniversary milestone event and celebration to view and enjoy the work of present and past members of **Gallery35**.

Bev Thompson
Exhibiting Artist
Gallery 35



Ellen Mandelbaum Retrospective ~ Coming This Fall



This November and December *Gallery35* will feature the work of artist Ellen Mandelbaum. Internationally known for her stained glass, she was recently elected “Accredited Artist, Designer” by the Stained Glass Association of America. In fact, Mandelbaum holds an MFA in Painting from Indiana, so it should

not be too surprising to see her paintings in oil, watercolor, drawing, and gilding which will be gathered here for the first time in a retrospective exhibit. The gallery will be open for the opening reception on Saturday, November 15 from 6-8 pm; an Artist’s Talk, Sunday, December 7 from 1-3 pm; the closing reception Saturday, December 20 from 2-4pm. All will be held in the Gallery.

“I will be exhibiting works from almost fifty years but I’m particularly excited to be showing oil paintings that were not well received in the late sixties when Pop Art and Minimalism were dominant. I wanted a greater range of emotion and beauty.” Often Mandelbaum’s works were based on landscapes, such as *Tuckerman Ravine*. The large oil painting, made on hand-prepared canvas, began with sketches from a hike in The White Mountains.

“My artwork has been lovingly preserved in my basement, attic, country home and studio.” Some of them were first exhibited with *Gallery35* in a show appropriately called *Buried Treasures*. “I know this happens to a lot of artists. Maybe I was before my time, but I never gave up. It will be very gratifying to see many of these works together like it has come full circle, and would make me feel whole.”

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2014

Peoples' Climate March/Climate Change Weekend

Friday, September 19-Sunday, September 21, Assembly Hall

UU's from all over the country, including UUA President Peter Morales, are coming to New York to participate in the Peoples Climate March. Many activities will be held throughout the city. Community Church will host a film presentation of *Groundswell Rising* on Thursday, September 18 at 6 pm and a Debriefing Conversation after the march on Sunday, September 21 at 3:30-5:30 pm. <http://peoplesclimate.org/march/>

First Saturday Feeding of the Hungry in the Bowery

Saturdays, September 6 and October 4, 10:45 am, offsite

We invite you to help the Sai Baba Group feed the hungry on the First Saturday of each month. We meet on Forsyth, just south of Houston at 10:45 am. Please bring vegetarian food to share with the over 100 people who come. This is an outdoor event so dress for the weather. For more information contact Valerie Lynch at vlynch@ccny.org or 212-683-4988, ext. 19.

Green Sanctuary Solar Salon Series

Wednesday, September 10, 2014, 5:30-9 pm, Assembly Hall

Convergence: Solar + Storage at the Grid Edge

New technologies such as smart inverters, battery storage, demand response, and new business models are converging to making solar energy increasingly attractive both to owners and to traditional utilities. New research projects such on grid-connected solar + battery storage in multifamily and commercial buildings are shedding new light on how NYC can take advantage of exciting developments to move toward a cleaner, smarter, and more resilient electric infrastructure.

Greek Language and Culture – 11 Week Class

Saturdays, 4-7 pm, September 13 - November 22

3rd Floor Classroom

Yannis Tziligakis a seasoned educator, a native speaker and a friend of Community Church, facilitates this weekly course. Instruction will be personalized according to the level of each individual student. Important texts spanning 3,000 years of history will be used as basis for instruction. (Fee to be announced)

Anti-Racism Team

Friday, September 5, 6:30 pm, Gallery

The team will again be offering films and discussions on the first Fridays of the month.

Gallery35 Art Exhibit – Opening Reception

Saturday, September 13, 6-8 pm

Please join us for this 10th Anniversary milestone event and celebration to view and enjoy the work of present and past members of Gallery35.

Activities and Committees Fair – Sunday, September 28, 12:15-1 pm, Assembly Hall

A special Fellowship Hour is planned! Learn about the many programs and activities that take place here at Community. There are many ways to get involved and share your gifts. Come explore!

UU Christian Fellowship

Third Thursday September 18, 7:30-9 pm, Front Lounge

Esperanto Society – Third Fridays, September 19, and October 17, 7 pm, Third Fl. Classroom

Social Tea

Last Tuesdays, September 30 and October 26, 2-3:30 pm, Assembly Hall

Join us for conversation and light refreshments. Guest speakers will be announced soon.

Secular Humanist Society of New York Book Club

Thursdays, September 4 and October 2, 7-9 pm, Front Lounge

Some of us will have dinner together afterwards at a nearby (inexpensive) restaurant. Please join us. Join us even if you haven't finished reading. The book club is open to all ... and free!

September: *THE AGE OF ATHEISTS: How We Have Sought to Live Since the Death of God* (Parts 2 and 3) by Peter Watson

Our wrap-up discussion. "Even the casual reader will find much to delight and enlighten as Watson elegantly connects the dots from Nietzsche and William James to Bob Dylan and jazz." October: *Doubt: A History – The Great Doubters and Their Legacy of Innovation from Socrates and Jesus to Thomas Jefferson and Emily Dickinson* by Jennifer Michael Hecht, historian, poet (and SHS Honorary Member)

Hecht champions doubt as one of the great, if unheralded, intellectual traditions that distinguish the Western mind. This is an account of the world's greatest "intellectual virtuosos", and of their attempts to reconcile the seeming meaninglessness of the universe with the human need for meaning.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2014 continued from page 9

Coming In October

Resistance Cinema will begin the new season in October. Watch for schedule soon.

Back by Popular Demand!

Arabic Language Workshop – 10 Week Class

Begins Saturday, October 11, 10 am to 2 pm, Front Lounge

Learn to speak, read and write Arabic through the lens of thousand-year-old axioms that offer us a glimpse into the culture as well as the language. Beginners are welcome. Each session will include a review of the alphabet, reading practice, and speaking. Advance registration is required. For more information, please contact Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education erosado@ccny.org, or Brenda Carpenter at 347.798.5991. This class is FREE and open to all Community Church members and friends.

Introduction to Humanism – Begins Monday, October 27, 6:30-9 pm, Rear Lounge

A monthly study group facilitated by John Rafferty of the Secular Humanist Society of New York.

Chair Yoga

2nd and 4th Sundays, 1-2 pm, Chapel.

Chair Yoga is designed for specific populations and such conditions as Alzheimer's, stroke, multiple sclerosis, arthritis, cancer, spinal cord injuries, obesity, and visual impairment. Jean Boudwin will be the facilitator.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH – 11 am

- September 14 – Homecoming Program
- September 21 – Sunday School Begins

Register now. All Children and Youth are Welcome!

Contact Esther Rosado, DLRE, 212-683-4988 ext. 23.



Pathways

Especially New Members and Visitors

Pathways Series – Dates will be announced soon.

What does it mean to be a Unitarian Universalist? What does it mean to be a member of Community Church? In order to help answer these questions, we offer our Pathways Classes.

Pathways 1 – Getting Acquainted.

This session is led by Reverend Bruce Southworth, our Senior Minister. He will share his journey and brief history of the church. This session will give people a chance to ask questions about our church as well as what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist.

Pathways 2 – Our Community and the Meaning of Membership

This session is led by Valerie Lynch, Member Coordinator, Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education and several members of Community Church.

This session is devoted to sharing our spiritual journey and exploring what Community Church offers. Our church provides an opportunity for people to grow their souls and to help their community in many practical ways. At this session, we will explore the various activities, committees and groups in our congregation. This session will explain what it means to be a member of our church. The session will last for approximately two hours. Refreshments will be served.

Any questions? Contact Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator, 212-683-4988, ext. 19 or vlynch@ccny.org

Join the Volunteer Choir— New Singers Welcome!

Rehearsals on most Sundays, 12:45-2 pm, Hall of Worship
Would you like to be part of our volunteer choir? If you are interested, please contact Jerry Brown, our Director of Music email jbrown@ccny.org or call 212-683-4988, ext. 33.

Pulpit Flowers and Art enhance our Sunday worship experience at Community Church. There are several Sundays still available for those who wish to donate for flowers or loan a work of art. It is a lovely way to honor or memorialize special people in your life. Please contact Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator, at vlynch@ccny.org / 212-683-4988, ext. 19 for more information.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2014 continued from page 9



Have you been to *The Peoples' Voice Cafe*?

by Rachel Stone

Quality musical entertainment concerning peace, social justice, and the environment.....right here at Community Church!

Peoples' Voice Cafe runs most Saturday nights from September through May in the Assembly Hall at Community Church of New York. Doors open 7:30pm, show starts 8:00pm. CONTRIBUTION: \$18 – more if you choose, less if you can't; no one turned away. Peoples' Voice Cafe members' suggested contribution is \$10. TDF vouchers also accepted for full admission.

If you were to imagine a musical venue that truly fits in with Unitarian-Universalist principles, you'd be hard-pressed to improve upon the Peoples' Voice Cafe, which has been gracing Community Church's Assembly Hall on thirty Saturday nights per year for more than five years.

Peoples' Voice Cafe (PVC) was founded in 1979 by a group of musicians, songwriters and music lovers who wanted to establish a NYC venue presenting music that relates directly to humanitarian

and social justice concerns. From its outset, PVC has focused on high quality musical acts that are politically relevant (mostly acoustic folk), pricing policies that make the shows accessible to people of varied financial means, and paying its performers fairly. Peoples' Voice continued success is also due to its many dedicated volunteers who handle everything from publicity, booking performers, and running the sound system, to baking delicious homemade goodies to enjoy along with fresh-brewed coffee and a full assortment of teas, all at very reasonable prices.

Take note of who's performing next at Peoples' Voice Cafe from notices in Community Church Announcements and emails, or go directly to PVC's website at www.peoplesvoicecafe.org. We look forward to seeing you there!

Here's what's coming up:

Most Saturdays, beginning Sept. 20, 8 pm

September 20: *The Johnson Girls and Hudson Valley Sally*

September 27: *Marie Mularczyk O'Connell with The Mountain Maidens & Judi Meiselman and Lizzie Hershon & The Living Room Singers.* Visit website for fall schedule www.peoplesvoicecafe.org



Church Meetings

Board of Trustees

4th Wednesdays, (Sept. 24) Gallery, 6 pm

Church Council

**3rd Wednesdays Quarterly beginning October
Potluck Gallery 6 pm/Meeting, 6:30 pm**

Finance Committee

3rd Wednesdays, (Sept. 17) Gallery, 6 pm

Buildings & Grounds

1st Mondays, (Sept. 8, this month)

Conference Room 6 pm

UN & Global Affairs

1st Sundays, (Sept. 7)

Conference Room, 9:45-10:45 am,

Events Calendar for September 2014

MONDAY, SEPT. 1 Labor Day Holiday THURSDAY, SEPT. 4 7:00 Secular Humanist Society Book Club FRIDAY, SEPT. 5 6:30 Antiracism Team SATURDAY, SEPT. 6 10:45 1st Saturday Feeding	SUNDAY, SEPT. 7 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:45 UN Global Affairs Meeting 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir MONDAY, SEPT. 8 6:00 Buildings & Grounds WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 10 5:30 Green Sanctuary Solar Salon Series 6:00 Church Council Potluck 6:30 Church Council Meeting	SATURDAY, SEPT. 13 4:00 Greek Language 6:30 Gallery35 SUNDAY, SEPT. 14 ~ <i>Homecoming</i> ~ 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 17 6:00 Finance Cmte. THURSDAY, SEPT. 18 6:00 Climate Change Groundswell Rising 7:30 UU Christian Fellowship	SATURDAY, SEPT. 20 7:30 Esperanto Society 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, SEPT. 21 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal 3:30 Climate Change Event WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 24 6:00 Board of Trustees FRIDAY, SEPT. 26 5:30 Green Sanctuary Solar Salon Series	SATURDAY, SEPT. 27 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, SEPT. 28 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:30 Annual Activities and Committees Fair 12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal 1:15 Nancy Ruckes Memorial Service TUESDAY, SEPT. 30 2:00 Social Tea
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**FOR MORE Adult Religious Education and
Opportunities/Events see pages 9-11**

Credits & Guidelines

Members are encouraged to submit articles to *Community Connections*. The submission deadline is typically the first Wednesday of the month prior to issue date. Submissions can be emailed to info@ccny.org or hand delivered to the Church. Articles submitted are subject to proofing and editing for clarity, brevity, grammar, punctuation, spelling and content.

Rev. Bruce Southworth, Senior Minister
Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education
Gerald A. Brown, Director of Music
Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator
Rev. Dr. Orlanda Brugnola, Affiliate Minister



The Community Church of New York
Unitarian Universalist
40 East 35th Street
New York, N.Y. 10016
www.ccny.org
Tel: 212.683.4988

ISSUE: SIXTY ONE
Here At Community, Opportunities, Calendar and much more...
Deadline for October/November issue due September 3, 2014



Issue 62 October/November 2014

On Sunday, September 21, approximately 300,000 people marched in NYC in support of protecting the environment. Over 1500 Unitarian Universalists came. Here are some reflections from Community members who participated:

By Jil Novenski

The morning of the march, Thorin was crying that he didn't want to go. He said it would be boring and that he couldn't stand the idea of marching for possibly 2 whole hours. I reminded him about what Esther told us in chapel the Sunday prior – that scientists say we have just 15 years to turn our energy usage and polluting habits around or climate change will be irreversible. Thorin found some motivation and came with me to the march doing his best to keep a positive attitude. As it turned out, the interfaith marchers were slated to be last in the march, and we ended up having to stand waiting to begin – for close to 3 hours. Thorin was beside himself – his positivity and motivation strained to their extreme – and yet he sang the songs, chanted the chants and clapped his hands during the interfaith service and as we finally were about to begin what was this 10 year old boy's first march, he came to me and in a deeply concerned tone, said to me "mommy? I don't know if I can change everything in 15 years...I'm just a kid and I don't know what I can do.." to which I replied "Thorin..you are doing something BIG right now. Something very big. And look. You are not doing it alone. Hundreds of thousands of people are here to share in this effort. You have been patient and now we're ready to march. You have MUCH to be proud of today." Thorin took my sign, held it



high, and marched for another hour and a half, chanting and singing all the way. He marveled at all the creative signs (especially the one that read "Frack Off Gassholes" and he loved all the rolling Earth-loving art pieces. The next day he proudly shared his pictures of the march in school and said his teachers had been there too. This was no doubt a memorable marker in his character development and truly a life-changing day of faith in action!

Climate Change continued pages 5,6,7

Here At Community

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Members Out and About
Birthdays
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Gallery35
People's Climate March
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Community's Climate March Photos
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October and November Calendar
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HERE AT COMMUNITY

Welcome New Members

Magda Santiago
Courtney Smothin
Brendon Soto
Claire Surovell

Members Out and About



Joseph and Martha Wagner

Through the weekend of August 10, we had an adventure, a very special one, for Martha. We drove to Whitefield, New Hampshire, for an “alumni weekend” at a summer theater (“Weathervane Theatre”, <http://www.weathervanetheatre.org/>) that was founded many years ago by Martha’s late brother-in-law, Tom Haas, and a partner, Gibbs Murray, who continues to run the theater. In her high school summers, Martha worked at the theater, “backstage” making sets/scenery, sometimes acting small parts in plays. These were some of Martha’s happiest memories. We had not been there in very many years. 26 years ago, when we married, we did travel there and I first saw this lovely little theater,

also meeting my new brother-in-law, Tom. Tom was a college professor, teaching theater/drama at Yale University. I was so pleased to meet him, looking forward to many years of friendship with this very interesting relative. In fact, this was not to be. Sometime later, Tom was jogging early one morning, for exercise, and a car struck and killed him.

Our trip was a driving marathon, as Martha had no more vacation days available, this year (8 hours up on Friday night, the same back home on Sunday night). We stayed at a lovely inn, just down the road from the theater, in the magnificent White Mountains. We attended a play (“Nearly Normal”) on Saturday night, and also a special performance for the alumni, on Sunday afternoon. Martha brought memorabilia from 1969/1970, which fascinated many others at the reception, held following the Sunday performance. Martha also enjoyed a heartfelt reunion with Gibbs, the co-founding partner of this theater. In all, it was a wonderful, magical weekend.

Jonathan Hampton, son of Wade Hampton and Helene Summa, graduated from Virginia Military Institute. We are all very proud of you, Jonathan and we wish you all the best in your future.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Christie Jeffers
- 5 Jiajun Wu
- 10 Shay Mutter
- 12 Joel Mandelbaum
- 14 Deborah Washburn
- 19 Doris Jeffrey
- 23 Laura Breach
Polly Franchini
- 25 Mary DeLisi
Laurence Reilly
- 27 Laura Ann Wilson
- 28 Eva Foreman
Eve Hazel
- 30 Ray Olive Clark

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Mary Gilliard
- 2 Annise Jean Bradley
- 5 Everette Ball
Ruth Miller
- 13 Maria Longas
John Yancey
- 15 Bruce Southworth
- 19 Odella Washington
- 22 Connie Moore
- 25 Andrew Daniele
Charlotte McPherson
- 27 Edmund Dejowski
- 28 Martha Wagner

HERE AT COMMUNITY

Ethelwyn Doolittle Justice and Outreach Fund Application Nominations

The Doolittle Committee is now accepting nominations for grant recipients from Voting Members of Community Church. These organizations must provide direct assistance or advocacy to designated communities in need and be 501.c.3 groups. Their work must also fall within the areas of human rights, civil liberties, racial justice and/or environmental concerns.

Nominations forms are available during Fellowship Hour or from the www.ccnny.org homepage under "Do Justice" – <http://www.acsweb-networks.com/communitychurchny/article196529.htm>.

Forms must be postmarked by October 17. The Doolittle Committee will need the name, contact person, address, telephone, email and website of the nominee.

Mail to:

The Community Church of New York Unitarian Universalist
Attn: Doolittle Committee
40 E. 35 Street New York, NY 10016.

Questions? Contact Rose Crayton, Doolittle Chair, at doolittleccny@gmail.com

"CYCLES"

WINTER RESTS AS BARREN COLD
AND SEEMING DEATH

SHE THEN RE-AWAKENS REFRESHED
AND ADORNED IN NEW APPAREL AS
SPRING

SHE PRESSES ON IN THE HEAT OF
PASSION WHILE BECOMING SUMMER

SHE THEN RECEDES AND SLUMBERS
INTO A FADING AUTUMN

SHE RESTS

Vera Lilly

Members' Poetry

ON THE FLIGHT TO ASIA

TIME TURNS THE GREAT KALEIDOSCOPE,
REVOLVING THE CAROUSEL IN THE MIND'S EYE,
CLICKING FRAMES THAT MAKE MEMORY OF HOPE
HERE AND NOW, THEN AND THERE - ALL ON THE FLY.

JOURNEYING - ON JETS! NOW THIRTY YEARS PLUS
AFTER ALL, AN IRREPRESSIBLE KIND OF PURSUIT.
LOSS, IN A SUDDEN RUSH LUGUBRIOUS
I WON'T REJECT THE MELLOWING FRUIT.

THE HEART'S AGROUND WITH SOMETHING FRAUGHT.
LIVELY OLD KOREAN DAME ON MY LEFT,
SILENT MAN ON MY RIGHT, ALONE BETWIXT IN THOUGHT
OF SOMETHING, BUT NOT OF SOARING BEREFT.

ROBERT BOBRICK

Missing Maya Angelou

She walked with grace -

She spoke with passion -

She knew the score,

And dealt it out to us in poetry.

Sandy Brooks

Gallery35 Art Exhibit ~ *Art for 10*



Closing Reception, Saturday, November 1, 6-8 pm, Gallery
We invite you to view and enjoy the work of present and past members of Gallery35.

Ellen Mandelbaum: Awaiting My Retrospective Exhibition –Opens November 15



It is exciting to put on an art exhibit, and a great deal of work. I discovered this when I presented a successful solo show at Gallery35 in 2010. Called "Painting With Light" it included water colors, stained glass and gilding. Schedules needed to be made, artwork selected and framed, titles created, announcements sent, prices determined, price lists printed, labels made, artwork transported, work hung, recep-

tions planned, wine purchased, tablecloths.....flowers? I did this with the help of my friends, particularly Tina Redick, and the members of the Gallery35. which was then called the Community Art Group.

You can imagine a retrospective exhibit is even more complex. I'm planning one to open November 15. We've been preparing for several months already. As this goes to press, I am selecting the artwork, and particularly excited to be choosing oil paintings that go back as far as 1966. Looking back, I'm finding some that I hardly remember, some that I like, some not, others that I've always known were very good, so I'm really pleased to be able to put the best of them on view for people to see for the first time.

left: Tuckerman Ravine, right top: Giverny Variation, left bottom: Monets Garden



I imagined Monet next to me, and felt struck by the extreme beauty of the garden. When asked, I said, "it felt like I was talking to God." This water color, has been on view as part of the Gallery35's excellent tenth anniversary show and will remain on view for the



retrospective. "Giverny Variation" was painted after a visit to his garden. Other water colors, oil paintings and artwork in other mediums will be selected. Unfortunately the gallery has only a few small windows so only a few stained glass pieces can be exhibited but we'll be projecting a slide show of forty years of my stained glass – major commissions and smaller works.

The retrospective is eagerly awaited. I am excited, and welcome all!

The People's Climate March

By Maureen Allen Holder



September 21, 2014, brought a number of Community Church members out on the street for the People's Climate March. Arriving at 10:45 am, at 58 Street between 8th and 9th Avenues, the venue for the various religions

denominations, we expected to step off by noon. However, because the multitude of 350,000 marchers far exceeded the original expectation of 100,000, we didn't take our position in the line up until 1:45 pm. However, once we began to march, the marches' enthusiasm and positive support stimulated our every step.

A healthy, cross section of society were represented in the sea of blue, red, and yellow shirts. Creative flags, signs and balloons illu-

minated the marchers way. In contrast to other demonstrations, anger was not an obvious displayed attitude among the marchers. Instead, cooperation and consideration were projected.

The need to persuade the political arena and the 1% to act responsibly towards our environment has united the 99% from across the political spectrum. The Climate change movement isn't just about the environment, it's about economics, it's political. Capitalism, and it's way of life, which perpetuates the division of labor, racism, xenophobia, homophobia, gender discrimination ... is under attack as action on climate change will effect a system change. Succinctly said, Desmond Tutu, prior to the United Nations summit on climate change noted the link between climate change and human rights. Climate change, said Tutu, has "emerged as the human rights challenge of our time."

Hopefully, for the sake of Mother Earth and humankind, the People's Climate March will not have been organized in vain.

continued – see photos on pages 6-7



Ordination of Daniel Gregoire



All Community Members and Friends are invited to attend the joyous celebration of the ordination of Daniel Gregoire. Daniel served at Community in several roles over the years, Sunday School Teacher, Student Minister and Summer Minister. He is now serving the Unitarian Society Of Germantown in Philadelphia as Director of Spiritual Development. The service will be held on November 9 at 4 pm in the Hall of Worship and will be followed with a reception in the Assembly Hall.

PEOPLE'S CLIMATE MARCH ~ COMMUNITY WAS THERE



Thanks to everyone who sent photos:
Gary Geoghegan
Esther Rosado

PEOPLE'S CLIMATE MARCH ~ COMMUNITY WAS THERE



HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2014

Coming Up this Fall

Pathways

Especially New Members and Visitors

What does it mean to be a Unitarian Universalist? What does it mean to be a member of Community Church? In order to help answer these questions, we offer our Pathways Classes.

Pathways 1 – Getting Acquainted – Sunday, October 5, 12:45-1:30 pm – Chapel

This session is led by Reverend Bruce Southworth, our Senior Minister. He will share his journey and brief history of the church. This session will give people a chance to ask questions about our church as well as what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist.

Pathways 2 – Our Community and the Meaning of Membership Thursday, November 6, 6:30-8 pm, Front Lounge

This session is led by Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator, Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education and several members of Community church.

This session is devoted to sharing our spiritual and journey and exploring what Community Church offers. Our church provides an opportunity for people to grow their souls and to help their community in many practical ways. At this session, we will explore the various activities, committees and groups in our congregation. This session will explain what it means to be a member of our church. The session will last for approximately ninety minutes. Refreshments will be served.

Any questions? Contact Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator, 212-683-4988, ext. 19 or vlynch@ccny.org

Arabic Language Workshop – 10 Week Class

Begins Saturday, October 18, 10:00 am-2 pm, – Front Lounge

A *fun* way to learn Arabic while simultaneously learning about the culture and the region for poetry, literature, music, native guest speakers and films from the Middle East as we practice reading and writing the *aleph-bet*. Structured for beginners to advanced students, everyone will be expected to participate in the workshop at their own level. A basic knowledge of Arabic, either spoken or written, is required. Bring your own lunch or food to share; coffee and tea will be provided.

First Saturday Feeding of the Hungry in the Bowery

Saturdays, October 4 and November 1, 10:45 am, Offsite,

We invite you to help the Sai Baba Group feed the hungry on the First Saturday of each month. We meet on Forsyth, just south of Houston at 10:45 am. Please bring vegetarian food to share with the over 100 people who come. This is an outdoor event so dress for the weather. For more information contact Valerie Lynch at vlynch@ccny.org or 212-683-4988, ext. 19.

Secular Humanist Society of New York Book Club

First Thursdays, October 2 and November 6, 7-9 pm, Front Lounge

Some of us will have dinner together afterwards at a nearby (inexpensive) restaurant. Please join us. Join us even if you haven't finished reading. The book club is open to all ... and free!

Oct: *Doubt: A History – The Great Doubters and Their Legacy of Innovation from Socrates and Jesus to Thomas Jefferson and Emily Dickinson* by Jennifer Michael Hecht, historian, poet (and SHSNY Honorary Member) Hecht champions doubt as one of the great, if unheralded, intellectual traditions that distinguish the Western mind. This is an account of the world's greatest "intellectual virtuosos", and of their attempts to reconcile the seeming meaninglessness of the universe with the human need for meaning.

November: Book selection will be announced soon.

Volunteer Choir – New Singers Welcome

Rehearsals on most Sundays, 12:45-2 pm, Hall of Worship

Would you like to be part of our volunteer choir? If you are interested, please contact Jerry Brown, our Director of Music – email jbrown@ccny.org or call 212-683-4988, ext. 33.

Green Sanctuary Solar Salon

October 8 and November 11, 5:30 pm, Assembly Hall

Details to be announced.

Anti-Racism Team

Fridays, October 3 and November 7, 6:30 pm, Gallery

Sundays, October 26 and November 23, 1 pm, Assembly Hall

The team will again be offering films and discussions on the first Fridays of the month and several Sundays.

Social Tea

Last Tuesdays, October 28 and November 25, 2-3:30 pm, Assembly Hall

Join us for conversation and light refreshments. Guest speakers will be announced soon.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2014 continued from page

Chair Yoga – 2nd and 4th Sundays, 1-2 pm, Chapel (October 12 and 26, November 9 and 23)

You are sitting at the computer totally engrossed in whatever and suddenly notice the tension in your neck and shoulders. You don't have to get up. You can release that tension with a few simple yoga moves and techniques. You can even do some of these techniques in public without attracting much attention. Hallelujah!

This Chair Yoga session includes releasing, stretching and strengthening postures and moves for the whole body and incorporates breathing, relaxation and moments of stillness. The desired outcome is that you leave this 45 minute (or hour) session with a relaxed body, more energy and a more peaceful mind. Jean Boudwin is a Certified Yoga Teacher (CYT) and also holds certifications in meditation and stress management.

Hatha Yoga with Nafisa Degani – Tuesdays, 6-7:30 pm and Saturdays, 12:30-2 pm, Rear Lounge

Hatha Yoga is a branch of yoga which concentrates on physical health and mental well-being. Hatha yoga uses bodily postures (asanas), breathing techniques (pranayama), and meditation (dyana) with the goal of bringing about a sound, healthy body and a clear, peaceful mind. There are nearly 200 hatha yoga postures, with hundreds of variations, which work to make the spine supple and to promote circulation in all the organs, glands, and tissues. Hatha yoga postures also stretch and align the body, promoting balance and flexibility with very slow controlled movements. Please bring a yoga mat to the class.

UN & Global Affairs Forum – Sunday, October 19, 1 pm Assembly Hall

UN Luncheon/Program in honor of the United Nation's 69th Anniversary

Guest Speaker: Patricia Bowden-Luccardi, LMT

Health Consequences of Environmental Estrogens and Breast Thermal Imaging

We live in a constant sea of environmental estrogens. Estrogen dominance encourages the development of breast cancer and can stimulate breast tissue that triggers fibrocystic breast. All women are at risk as are our very young daughters. Thermal imaging has the ability to show the heat associated with the backup of foreign estrogens in the body in a radiation-free, painless, safe, preventive screening, regardless of age, size or density. It doesn't identify fibrocystic tissue, cysts or scars as needing further investigation. Learn about the earliest detection through thermography and how to protect yourself from these risky toxic body burdens. Luncheon available (\$7).

Gallery35 Art Exhibits ~ Art for 10

Closing Reception – Saturday, November 1, 6-8 pm, Gallery
We invite you to view and enjoy the work of present and past members of Gallery35.

Ellen Mandelbaum: Retrospective

Opening Reception, Saturday, November 15, 6-8 pm, Gallery

Artist Talk – Sunday, December 7, 1-3 pm, Gallery

Closing Reception – Saturday, December 20, 6-8 pm

A variety of works will be shown including "In Monet's Garden, Talking to God". Other water colors, oil paintings and artwork in other mediums along with several stained glass pieces will be exhibited and a projected slide show of forty years of Ellen's stained glass – major commissions and smaller works – will be presented. (see page 4 for more information.)

Community Women

Annual UUWA Weekend Retreat – November 7-9

Spirits Rising – How Would you like to find the Artist Within this November?

Location: St Josaphat's Retreat House, 1 East Beach Drive, Glen Cove, NY

Flyer available at Welcome Table or www.ccny.org. Speak with Reena Kondo for more information.

UU Christian Fellowship

Third Thursdays, October 16 and November 20, 7:30-9 pm, Front Lounge

Theme for the year is *Desert Spirituality*. All are welcome. Flyer and Session Schedule/Agenda are available on www.ccny.org.

MNY-UUCF, a local chapter of the national UU Christian Fellowship (UUCF), is led by the Rev. Kelly Murphy Mason, a community minister and former Vice-President of the UUCF. The chapter meets the third Thursday of every month at Community for fellowship and discussion, religious education, and spiritual deepening. All UUs in the District are invited to participate.

Introduction to Humanism – Monday, November 24

6:30-9 pm, Rear Lounge

A monthly study group facilitated by John Rafferty of the Secular Humanist Society of New York.

Resistance Cinema – Various Sundays October 12, November 16, 1:15 pm, Gallery

October 12 Film: *American Empire*

November Film title to be announced soon.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2014 continued from page 9

Card Making with Valerie

Sunday, November 9, 1-2:30 pm Front Lounge

Join the RE/FM families for an early afternoon of crafting fun. Make cards for the holidays or other special occasions. Supplies will be provided but feel free to bring your own as well.

Genius of the World's Religions I

Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00 Tuesdays in Conference Room

10/21,10/28,11/11,11/25,12/9 to be continued in January

This series will present a basic picture of each of nine World Religions Hinduism, Buddhism, Daoism, Confucianism, Shinto, Shamanism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam. We will use video and other imaging, text, commentary, and sometimes art and music. Each session is largely independent of the others, but the experience will be much richer if you attend all sessions. The class will be led by Rev. Dr. Orlanda Brugnola who has taught world religions for 34 years.

Esperanto Society – Third Fridays, September 19, and October 17 and November 21, 7 pm, Third Fl. Classroom

Greek Language and Civilization

Watch for new schedule.

Yannis Tziligakis (yanni.tzili@gmail.com) a seasoned educator, a native speaker and a friend of Community Church, facilitates this weekly course. Instruction will be personalized according to the level of each individual student.

Henry George School is offering classes at Community on various evenings. Community Church Members and Friends are welcome – no fee. For more informatiton contact (212) 889-8020 or email info@hgsss.org.

Governance/Committee Meetings

Board of Trustees Meetings – 4th Thursdays
6 pm Potluck, 6:30-7:30 pm Meeting, Gallery
(November meeting will be rescheduled)

Church Council Meetings – Meets Quarterly (October 8/January 7),
6 pm Potluck, 6:30-7:30 pm Meeting, Gallery

Finance Committee – 3rd Wednesdays, 6 pm, Gallery

Buildings and Grounds Committee – 1st Mondays, 6 pm,
Conference Room (October meeting is reschedule to Tuesday,
October 14)

UN and Global Affairs Committee – 1st Sundays, 9:45-10:45 am,
Conference Room



**Peoples Voice Café – Most Saturday Evenings, 8 pm,
Assembly Hall, www.peoplesvoicecafe.org.**

October 11: Filthy Rotten System and Steve Deasy

October 18: *Young Political Songwriters Night* - Alexandra
Bradbury, Ben Grosscup and Emma Graves

October 25: Judy Gorman and Arlon Bennett

November 1: Pearls of Wisdom with Thelma Thomas

November 8: Jack Landron (a.k.a. Jackie Washington)

November 15: Such As Us and Rustic Riders

November 22: Peoples Voice Cafe 35th Anniversary Celebration

SAVE THE DATE

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ~ NOVEMBER 2, 2014

at 12:45 pm IN THE ASSEMBLY HALL

Everyone welcome!

Events Calendar for October 2014

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2 5:30 Doolittle Committee 7:00 Secular Humanist Society Book Club FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3 6:30 Antiracism Team SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4 10:45 1st Saturday Feeding 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:45 UN Global Affairs Forum 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Pathways I MONDAY, OCTOBER 6 6:00 Buildings & Grounds	TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8 5:30 Green Sanctuary Solar Salon Series 6:00 Church Council Potluck 6:30 Church Council Meeting FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10 6:30 Henry George School SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 8:00 Peoples' Voice Café SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 1:00 Chair Yoga 1:15 Resistance Cinema	MONDAY, OCTOBER 13 Columbus Day Holiday TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15 6:00 Finance Cmte. THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16 7:30 UU Christian Fellowship FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17 7:00 Esperanto Society SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18 10:00 Arabic Class 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 8:00 Peoples' Voice Café	SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal 1:00 UNGA-UN Day 1:15 Community Women TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22 6:00 Board of Trustees SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25 10:00 Arabic Class 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 8:00 Peoples' Voice Café	SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:30 Halloween Party 12:45 Volunteer Choir 1:00 Chair Yoga 1:00 Anti-Racism TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28 2:00 Social Tea 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 6:30 Genius of the Worlds' Religions FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31 
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FOR MORE Adult Religious Education and Opportunities/Events see pages 8-10

Credits & Guidelines

Members are encouraged to submit articles to *Community Connections*. The submission deadline is typically the first Wednesday of the month prior to issue date. Submissions can be emailed to info@ccny.org or hand delivered to the Church. Articles submitted are subject to proofing and editing for clarity, brevity, grammar, punctuation, spelling and content.

Events Calendar for November 2014

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1 10:00 Arabic Class 10:45 First Saturday Feeding 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 6:00 Gallery35 Closing Reception 8:00 Peoples' Voice Café SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:45 UN Global Affairs Meeting 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Congregational Meeting MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3 6:00 Buildings & Grounds 6:30 Introduction to Humanism TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6 6:30 Pathways 2 7:00 Secular Humanist Book Club FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7 6:30 Antiracism Team UUWA Weekend Retreat SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8 10:00 Arabic Class 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 8:00 Peoples' Voice Café	SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:30 RE/FM Workshop 1:00 Chair Yoga 1:00 Card Making with Valerie 4:00 Ordination of Daniel Gregoire 5:00 Ordination Reception TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11 Election Day 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 6:30 Genius of World's Religion I 6:30 Green Sanctuary Solar Salon SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15 10:00 Arabic Class 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 8:00 Peoples' Voice Café SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:24 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal 1:15 Resistance Cinema TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18 2:00 Gallery35 Showcase 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani	WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19 6:00 Finance Committee 6:00 Church Council Potluck 6:30 Church Council THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20 6:00 Board of Trustees 7:30 UU Christian Fellowship FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21 7:00 Esperanto Society SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22 10:00 Arabic Class 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 8:00 Peoples' Voice Café SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship Thanksgiving Service 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 1:00 Chair Yoga 1:00 Antiracism Team Film MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24 6:00 Introduction to Humanism TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25 2:00 Social Tea 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 6:30 Genius of World's Religion I	THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27  FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28 Church Office Closed SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29 10:00 Arabic Class 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 8:00 Peoples' Voice Café SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir
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HERE AT COMMUNITY

Planning Ahead for the Holidays

Thanksgiving Intergenerational Sunday
Join us for the traditional Cornbread Communion
on Sunday, November 23, at 11 am



Holiday Crafts Fair Sunday, December 7

Be sure to stay after church on December 7 and invite your friends and neighbors to our annual Holiday Crafts Fair in the Assembly



Hall, 12 to 4 pm. You'll be able to find anything from affordable art to tee-shirts. Come and peruse the unique handcrafted items made by artisan members and friends of Community Church, and stay for a delicious lunch. Proceeds from sales benefit the Church, and proceeds from lunch sales benefit B.J.'s and Helene's Place, our men's shelter.

Contact Jody Leight at j_cyberbunny@yahoo.com if you're interested in vending.

Contact Lisa Gluck at

lgluckster@gmail.com to volunteer to help make or serve lunch or to donate food.

Rev. Bruce Southworth, Senior Minister
Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education
Gerald A. Brown, Director of Music
Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator
Rev. Dr. Orlanda Brugnola, Affiliated Minister



The Community Church of New York
Unitarian Universalist
40 East 35th Street
New York, N.Y. 10016
www.ccny.org
Tel: 212.683.4988

ISSUE: SIXTY TWO
Here At Community, Opportunities, Calendars and much more...
Deadline for December/January issue due November 5, 2014

COMMUNITY connections

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF NEW YORK
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Growing Souls, Doing Justice, and Being Bold in a Caring Community since 1825

Issue 63 • Dec./Jan. 2015

Annual Holiday Crafts Fair

Here At Community

Members' Birthdays
Members Out And About
Annual Halloween Party
Ordination of H. Daniel Gregoire
The Cost of Racism: UN Windows
Gallery 35 Ellen Mandelbaum
Retrospective Exhibit
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Back Page

December Calendar
Fund For Holiday Greens
Credits & Guidelines
January Calendar
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The Community Church of NY
Unitarian Universalist

40 East 35th St (between Park & Mad.) • NYC

December 7th, 2014 – 12:15-4:00 p.m.

Original gift & food items created by Artisan members
and friends of Community Church of New York

We look forward to seeing you there!

Christmas Eve at Community

Candle-Lighting Service

December 24th 4:30 p.m.

A service of readings, music
and carols concluding with a
candle-lighting ceremony.

Hot cider and cookies
will follow the service.



This
year we
again offer
the Christmas
portion (and Halleluiah
Chorus) of Händel's "Messiah."
The choir of approximately sixty members
will include members of the church,
as well as singers from the larger
community.
The service
will
begin at
7:30 p.m.

Kwanzaa

December 28, we
celebrate the familial
and cultural wisdom
and values from the
African tradition.



Hanukkah

Lighting of the Menorah
Sunday, December 21 at 11 am

Christmas Day Dinner
Advanced Purchase Ticket Required
See page 9

CHRISTMAS DINNER

December 25th – 12:00 Noon.

* * * * *
Adults – \$20.00
Age 12 and under \$ 7.00
Family Maximum \$50.00 Ticket No. _____

HERE AT COMMUNITY

BIRTHDAYS December 2014

- 1 Gary Geoghegan
- 6 Ginger Ruckes-Brooks
Deborah de Bauernfeind
- 7 Joseph Wagner II
- 8 L. Oriana Linares
- 10 Sandy Brooks
Vernon Jacob
- 13 Harry Xanthakos
- 14 J. Andrea McMahon
- 17 Mark Siebers
- 18 Vera Lilly
- 21 Sally Asiedu
Lois Ross
- 29 Tina Redick
- 29 Patricia Garbarini

Welcome New Members

Carla Corcoran
Patrick Mbaya
Jennifer Barnes

BIRTHDAYS January 2015

- 4 Rev. Louis Schwebius
- 8 Douglas Anderson
- 12 Anna-Lisa Hafgren
- 12 Lucille McEwen
- 13 George Rainer
Heidi Siegfried
- 15 Juanita Ambrose
- 16 George Duckett
Jova Vargas
- 18 Linda Novenski
- 20 Harry French
- 24 Jo Ann Corkran
- 25 Sheila Kaminsky
- 27 Carolynn Julien
Marian Glassman
- 28 Khalilah Arrington
- 29 Corinne Padavano

Members Out and About

Rachel Stone & Bill Rothfarb Wedding December 7, 1979

On December 7, 2014, **Rachel Stone** and **Bill Rothfarb** will be celebrating their 35th Wedding Anniversary. Their wedding was a last-minute decision made right before their vacation ended at Couples Resort in



Jamaica. On the last evening there, on the beach under palm trees and serenaded by a local guitarist, Rachel and Bill exchanged vows wearing matching sarongs from the gift shop. In a foreshadowing of the couple becoming multi-cultural

UU's 20 years later, the wedding was conducted by a Christian minister, and included the Jewish tradition of the groom stomping on a wine glass.

World Premier For Joel Mandelbaum

On Tuesday evening, December 16th at 7:30 pm. Joel **Joel Mandelbaum's** Mass, originally written for men's voices and organ in 1954, will have its world premiere at Queens College, sixty years late, and with a women's chorus substituting for the men.

With our emphasis on universal religion and the interconnectedness of different belief systems, members of our congregation might be particularly interested in how a young soldier, assigned as an assistant to a Catholic chaplain, attempted to reach out musically from his secular Jewish background to enhance the religious experience of Catholic colleagues attending their most basic service.

By the time this Mass was completed, the choir of military police trainees had departed for many locations, and the chaplain to Korea. The work has stayed on the shelf – until now. I think some of you would enjoy sharing a ride to Queens to hear how it goes and to observe how it is received at its premiere.

A Recommendation from Mary Orovan

Mary Orovan and **Harry French** recently viewed "Genesis", a photo exhibit about the global environment by world-renowned photographer Sebastião Salgado from Brazil, now at the International Center of Photography (until January 11). "The exhibition draws together more than 200 spectacular black-and-white photographs of wildlife, landscapes, seascapes, and indigenous peoples – raising public awareness about the pressing issues of environment and climate change." (From the ICP brochure.) "The photographs in this show are by a master; in my opinion as former Features Editor of "US Camera magazine", Salgado is even better than Edward Weston and Ansel Adams. And the message is clear: Save our planet. Please see this show."

Mary Orovan

continued on page 3

Members Out and About continued

Robert Bobrick in China

I am going to be living in China for the time being, probably until spring. Nina took care of her father here over the summer, but had go back to take the citizenship test. Jun and I are doing the care-taking in the meantime. Beyond that, I am getting to know Nina's extended family, most of whom live nearby in Guangzhou (a beautiful modern city, formerly called Canton, home to Sun Yatsen and birthplace of the Chinese Revolution). We have a large apartment in a small city near Guangzhou. We have extra room if anyone wants to visit. We're also only two hours from Hong Kong. No

Facebook or Youtube here, but you can't have everything. I am swimming in an enormous outdoor pool 50 meters long which is open year around and am taking piano lessons at a local music school, and have been playing mahjong with Jun's old classmates. See you in China!

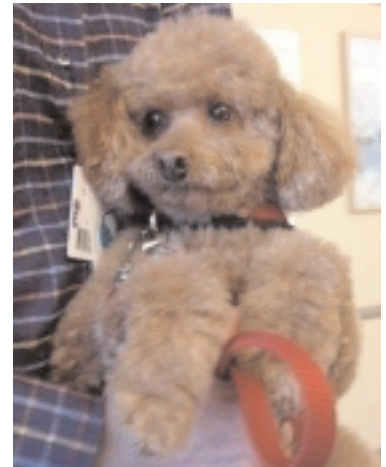
Best wishes,
Robert Bobrick

David Parnes and Therapy Work

By David C. Parnes

Seven years ago, reluctantly, I took over from my wife the therapy dog training that Billie was receiving. I did not know what therapy dog work was all about. Today, you cannot tear me away from it. The rewards are emotional of course, but they are immense. The results of the therapy are anecdotal at best, but the net effect is that you are present and can viscerally feel the healing that is taking place. One among many examples; Billie and I work at Cornell

Weill Presbyterian hospital at 67th St. and York Avenue. I entered a patient's room and the nurse told me not to put the dog on the patient's left side because his left arm was paralyzed. I did as the nurse requested but after about four or five minutes, Billie did one of those Marine crawls – you know like when they train recruits to crawl on their bellies under live fire. Billie then commenced licking the paralyzed man's left arm. I turned to the nurse, astounded, and asked, "Did you see that?" The nurse responded with a smile "Yes I did." She appeared astounded as much as I was by Billie's actions.



Member's Poetry

By Austin Publicover

The first photo is titled "Ant Nest, Tucson" and the second photo is titled "Leaf Cutter Ant Nest, Tucson". Together, the haiku are called

Approval Haiku:

There is still more light

The coldest night or dark moon

Here and now singing

Out of my hands sure

Autumnal fulcrum oh love

Gold leaves sky for earth

This hug and your smile

Universal luxury

Bird hearts chirp flirting



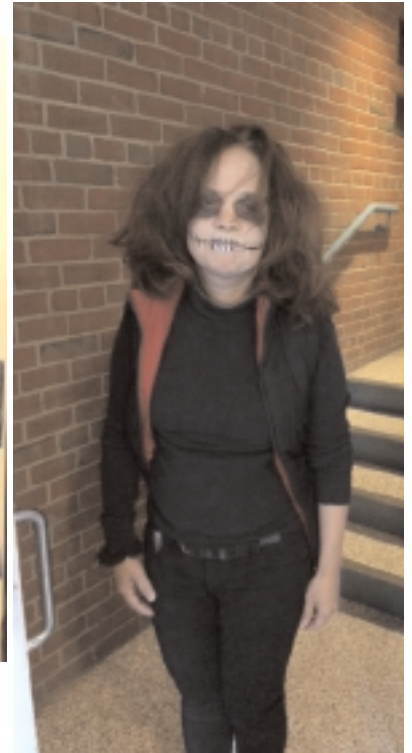
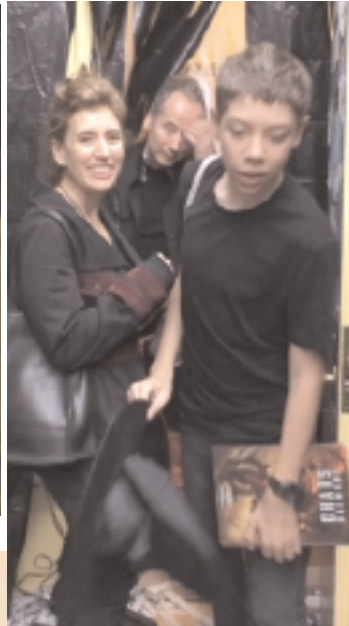
Ant Nest, Tucson



"Leaf Cutter Ant Nest, Tucson"

HERE AT COMMUNITY

Annual Halloween Party



HERE AT COMMUNITY

A Special Sunday at Community ~ H. Daniel Gregoire's Ordination

On November 9, approximately 200 people from all over the east coast filled the sanctuary to celebrate the ordination of H. Daniel Gregoire. Daniel served at Community in several roles over the years, Sunday School Teacher, Student Minister and Summer Minister. He is now serving the Unitarian Society of Germantown in Philadelphia as Minister of Spiritual Development. We are so happy for you, Rev. Gregoire!



Thanks to Vidho Lorville for photographs



Daniel with his friend (and ours) artist, Vidho Lorville

The Cost of Racism: United Nations Window

By George Garland



International Convention to Eliminate Racial Discrimination, the US Prison System



Photos submitted by Esther Rosado

George Garland, Chair of UN Global Affairs, was one of the participants in a seminar to explore US criminal justice system performance in preparation the International Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) review in August. We learned that Treyvon Martin's mother would attend that review in Geneva to help assess the racial impact of Florida's "Stand Your Ground" law. Other participants in the seminar held by the Southern New York State Division of the United Nations Association of the USA included BlackWestchester.com; Blacks in Law Enforcement of America; The Correctional Association of New York; The Fortune Society; Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison; Theodore D. Young Community Center; and the Department of Community Services, Town of Greenburgh NY. Bruce Knotts attended for the Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office.

The cost of racism was contemplated by David Strachan as he viewed the flight pattern going over the prison at Rikers Island. When David had taught flying in the New York City school system, he was told that he was wasting his time. His students could never be expected to learn to fly a commercial airliner. David compared the six figure salaries that his former students, now pilots, were making versus the close to six figures annually spent on prisoners at Rikers.

Sean Pika of Hudson Link, based in Ossining, home to both Sing Sing prison and George, said the recidivism rate for graduates of the degree programs Hudson Link sponsors at Sing Sing and several correctional facilities, was zero. The annual cost for a resident of Sing Sing is around \$60,000. The cost of a degree is about \$15,000.

Annual Spring Retreat – April 10-12, 2015

Join us for a wonderful time of fun, fellowship and renewal as we return to the beautiful Stony Point Center in upstate New York. Registration forms are available at the Welcome Table and on our website. Please indicate your interest by December 31. (Payment will be due at a later date.).

Contact Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education, by phone or email – 212-683-4988, ext. 23 or erosado@ccny.org for more information.



Visit the Bookstall on Sundays!

There are new books, used books and CDs available at our Bookstall – Open during Fellowship Hour on Sundays

Take advantage of a new offer – Buy one new book, get one used book/or cd free.

A wonderful new book is in stock – Desert Fathers and Mothers – ancient wisdom from the desert!

HERE AT COMMUNITY

Gallery35 Art Show ~ Ellen Mandelbaum Retrospective

Artist Talk – Sunday, December 7, 1-3 pm, Gallery

**Open House – Tuesdays, November 18-December 16,
2-4 pm, and by appointment, Gallery**

Closing Reception – Saturday, December 20, 2-4 pm

A Personal Odyssey: The Watercolors

The works in this show mirrored, or caused, many of the events in Ellen's life. For example, in 1997 she went with her husband Joel to China in order to paint the mountains that had once been painted by Chinese masters. Thus, the three large watercolors featured in the show were produced while seated at the prow of a boat travelling down the Yangtze and Li Rivers. With precious French Arches watercolor paper perched precariously on her lap, and Windsor Newton's best watercolors on her brush, she painted the glorious mountains on either side (they really DID look like the great Chinese paintings!). It was necessary to work quickly because the boat moved and the view constantly changed. Like the Chinese paintings, most of her watercolors were painted on site, looking at landscape that beckoned her to say, "Ah hah! Look at that!"

A few watercolors were made after a strong emotional experience. When dazzled by her first visit to Monet's exquisite garden she painted *Giverny Variation* (right) to capture the joy of the bright colors. 9/11, *The Golden City* was made within days of the tragedy when the terror and pain seemed like it would last forever. This visionary work contrasts the black and red explosion with the golden light of the city – ordinary life.



Oil Paintings: The World Premier

The oil paintings in the *Retrospective* exhibit (left) are being shown for the first time. They were made in the nineteen sixties, at a time when art museums featured empty-looking canvases (Minimalism) and Campbell soup cans (Pop), and representational art was scorned.



Mandelbaum revolted from that. She wanted to use all the power of art – the full range of abstraction, representation, color, shape, and emotion – to develop meaning. The oils are made on carefully hand-prepared canvas. Like the watercolors, some of the oil paintings were painted from life but most include a mix of real and imaginary, abstract and representational. Houses morph into washes of color; trees and mountains coexist with stripes and empty spaces.

This exhibit is truly a retrospective. As you enter the gallery from the hallway, you will see a childhood picture of a person and a house Ellen made as a master of her earliest medium – Crayola.

For more information or to make appointments, contact Ellen directly – 718-361-8154 or ellen@ellenmandelbaum.com

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2014-2015

December 2014 Opportunities

Pathways

Especially New Members and Visitors

What does it mean to be a Unitarian Universalist? What does it mean to be a member of Community Church? In order to help answer these questions, we offer our Pathways Classes.

Pathways 1 – Getting Acquainted

Sundays, December 21 and January 11, 12:45-1 pm, Conference Room.

This session is led by Reverend Bruce Southworth, our Senior Minister. He will share his journey and brief history of the church. This session will give people a chance to ask questions about our church as well as what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist.

Pathways 2 – Our Community and the Meaning of Membership – Dates to be announced soon

This session is led by Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator, Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education and several members of Community Church.

This session is devoted to sharing our spiritual and journey and exploring what Community Church offers. Our church provides an opportunity for people to grow their souls and to help their community in many practical ways. At this session, we will explore the various activities, committees and groups in our congregation. This session will explain what it means to be a member of our church. The session will last for approximately ninety minutes. Light refreshments will be served.

Any questions? Contact Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator, 212-683-4988, ext. 19 or vlynch@ccny.org

Annual Holiday Crafts Fair – Sunday, December 7, 12:15-4 pm, Assembly Hall

It will once again feature food, fun, and fabulous crafts and gifts made by artisan members and friends of Community Church. For information about tables, contact Jody Leight at j_cyberbunny@yahoo.com or at (973) 673.7354.

Christmas Eve Messiah Choir Rehearsal – Sunday, December 7, 12:45 pm – Join us for our first rehearsal. New singers are welcome. Please contact Jerry Brown, Director of Music, by December 10, if you would like to join this special choir.

Arabic Language Workshop – Saturdays (through December 13), 10 am to 12 pm, Front Lounge

Arabic Classes will continue until December 13.

All levels are welcome.

Greek Language and Culture – Saturdays (through December 13), 4-7 pm, 3rd Floor Classroom

Yannis Tziligakis a seasoned educator, a native speaker and a friend of Community Church, facilitates this weekly course.

Instruction will be personalized according to the level of each individual student. Important texts spanning 3,000 years of history will be used as basis for instruction. (No fee for this class)

Community's Holiday Party – HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED TO DECEMBER 14

We invite you to a special Fellowship Hour as we celebrate the Holidays together. Soup will be provided – Bring a favorite dish or dessert to share. Santa will join us too! Resistance Cinema will offer a wonderful film afterwards.

First Saturday Feeding of the Hungry in the Bowery – Saturdays, December 6 and January 3, 10:45 am, Offsite

We invite you to help the Sai Baba Group feed the hungry on the First Saturday of each month. We meet on Forsyth, just south of Houston at 10:45 am. Please bring vegetarian food to share with the over 100 people who come. This is an outdoor event so dress for the weather. For more information contact Valerie Lynch at vlynch@ccny.org or 212-683-4988, ext. 19.

Secular Humanist Society of New York Book Club

Thursdays, December 4 and January 8 7-9 pm, Conference Room

Some of us will have dinner together afterwards at a nearby (inexpensive) restaurant. Please join us. Join us even if you haven't finished reading. The book club is open to all ... and free!

December: *Waking Up: A Guide to Spirituality Without Religion* by Sam Harris. January: *Doubt: A History* by Jennifer Michael Hecht

Volunteer Choir – New Singers Welcome

Rehearsals on most Sundays, 12:45-2 pm, Hall of Worship

Would you like to be part of our volunteer choir? If you are interested, please contact Jerry Brown, our Director of Music – email jbrown@ccny.org or call 212-683-4988, ext. 33.

Green Sanctuary Solar Salon Series

The series will resume in February.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2014-2015 continued

Anti-Racism Team

Fridays, December 5 and January 2, 6:30 pm, Gallery

The team will again be offering films and discussions on the first Fridays of the month and occasional Sundays.

Social Tea

Tuesday, January 27, 2-3:30 pm, Assembly Hall

Join us for conversation and light refreshments. Guest speakers will be announced soon

Hatha Yoga with Nafisa Degani – Tuesdays, 6-7:30 pm and Saturdays, 12:30-2 pm, Rear Lounge

Hatha Yoga is a branch of yoga which concentrates on physical health and mental well-being. Hatha yoga uses bodily postures (asanas), breathing techniques (pranayama), and meditation (dyana) with the goal of bringing about a sound, healthy body and a clear, peaceful mind. There are nearly 200 hatha yoga postures, with hundreds of variations, which work to make the spine supple and to promote circulation in all the organs, glands, and tissues. Hatha yoga postures also stretch and align the body, promoting balance and flexibility with very slow controlled movements. Please bring a yoga mat to the class..

Green Sanctuary Solar Salon Series

The series will resume in February.

Anti-Racism Team

Fridays, December 5 and January 9, 6:30 pm, Gallery

The team will again be offering films and discussions on the first Fridays of the month and occasional Sundays.

Gallery35 Art Show – Ellen Mandelbaum: Retrospective

Artist Talk – Sunday, December 7, 1-3 pm, Gallery

Open House – Tuesdays, November 18-December 16, 2-4 pm, Gallery

Closing Reception – Saturday, December 20, 2-4 pm

A variety of works will be shown including "In Monet's Garden, Talking to God". Other water colors, oil paintings and artwork in other mediums along with several stained glass pieces will be exhibited and a projected slide show of forty years of Ellen's stained glass – major commissions and smaller works – will be presented.

UU Christian Fellowship

Third Thursdays, December 18 and January 15, 7:30-9 pm, Conference Room

Theme for the year is Desert Spirituality. All are welcome. Flyer and Session Schedule/Agenda are available on www.ccny.org. MNY-UUCF, a local chapter of the national UU Christian Fellowship (UUCF), is led by the Rev. Kelly Murphy Mason, a UU community minister and former Vice-President of the UUCF. The chapter meets the third Thursday of every month at Community for fellowship and discussion, religious education, and spiritual deepening. All UUs in the District are invited to participate.

Christmas Eve – December 24

Candlelighting Service – 4:30 pm

Annual Händel's Messiah Concert – 7:30 pm

Christmas Dinner – Thursday, December 25, 12:00 Noon, Assembly Hall

We invite you to join us for our annual celebration, a delicious dinner hosted by

Rev. Bruce Southworth and Kay Xanthakos

Purchase tickets at the Welcome Table by Sunday, December 14

\$20 adults/\$7 children under 12

Family Maximum \$50

Please pay by check or exact change.

Studying Humanism – Monday, January 26, 6:30-9 pm, Conference Room

A monthly study group facilitated by John Rafferty of the Secular Humanist Society of New York.

Resistance Cinema – Sundays, December 14 and January 18, 1:15 pm, Gallery

December: Holiday party with film

January: Film to be announced.

Green Sanctuary Book Study

Begins Monday, January 19, 6:30-8:30 pm, Gallery

The Green Sanctuary Committee is planning to offer a five session Book Study focused on "*This Changes Everything*" by Naomi Klein. We plan to meet first and third Mondays beginning January 19. Reena Kondo and other knowledgeable guests will facilitate.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2014-2015 continued

Governance/Committee Meetings:

Board of Trustees Meetings – 4th Wednesdays, 6 pm, Gallery
Due to Holiday – **Rescheduled** to Wednesday, December 3, John Haynes Holmes House, 28 East 35th Street

Church Council Meetings – Meets Quarterly (next January 7)
6 pm Potluck, 6:30-7:30 pm Meeting, Gallery

Finance Committee – 3rd Wednesdays, 6 pm, Gallery

Buildings and Grounds Committee – 1st Mondays, 6 pm,
Conference Room

UN and Global Affairs Committee – 1st Sundays, 9:45-10:45 am,
Conference Room

Watch announcements for occasional changes due to holidays.

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

Peoples Voice Café – Most Saturdays, 8 pm, Assembly Hall –
www.peoplesvoicecafe.org.

Esperanto Society – Third Fridays, December 19 and January 16,
7 pm, Third Fl. Classroom

Henry George School is offering classes at Community on various evenings. Community Church Members and Friends are welcome – no fee. For more information contact (212) 889-8020 or email info@hgsss.org



A Message from our Nominating Committee

The nominating committee announces the elective positions for which it will make nominations at the Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee members are: Doug Anderson (chair), Jonathan Birchall (vice chair), Janice Marie Johnson, Helene Summa, George Martin, Sheila Kaminsky, and Jon Dietrich.

Open elective positions are:

Board of Trustees:

3 at-large positions for 3 year terms (2015-18), Treasurer for 2 year term, Clerk for 1 year term

Church Council:

Chair for 3 year term, 2 at-large positions for 3 year terms, 2 at-large positions: one for 1 year term and one for a 2 year term.

Nominating Committee:

3 at-large positions for 2 year terms.

The slate of nominees and any nominees by petition will be presented to the congregation at the Annual Congregational Meeting on March 29 and voted upon by voting members at the meeting.

We invite anyone with suggestions for nominees to contact a member of the committee or leave a message for us with the church office. **The deadline is February 1.** If you are interested in a position and need more information about the responsibilities for each position, please do not hesitate to ask us for this. The qualifications for becoming a nominee include being a voting member, good leadership skills, good character, and sense of responsibility.

We look forward to your participation in the process.

Douglas Anderson - dougander@earthlink.net
(Chair)

Events Calendar for December 2014

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1 6:00 Buildings & Grounds TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2 2:00 Gallery35 Open House 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3 6:00 Board of Trustees 6:30 Gallery35 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4 7:00 Secular Humanist Book Club FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5 6:30 Anti Racism SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6 10:00 Arabic Class 10:45 First Saturday Feeding 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 12:45 Messiah Rehearsals 8:00 People's Voice Café	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:45 UN Global Affairs Mtg. 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:15 Holiday Crafts Fair 12:45 Messiah Rehearsal 1:00 Ellen Mandelbaum Artist Talk TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9 2:00 Gallery35 -Open House 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10 6:30 Gallery35 Meeting SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13 10:00 Arabic Class 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 12:45 Messiah Rehearsal 8:00 Peoples' Voice Café SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour Holiday Party 12:45 Messiah Rehearsal 1:15 Resistance Cinema Holiday Party/Film	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16 2:00 Gallery35 -Open House 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17 6:00 Finance Committee THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18 7:30 UU Christian Fellowship FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19 7:00 Esperanto Society SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 12:45 Messiah Rehearsal 2:00 Ellen Mandelbaum Retrospective Closing Reception Greek Language 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Messiah Rehearsal 1:00 Action for Justice Forum	MONDAY, DECEMBER 22 6:30 Messiah Mandatory Rehearsal TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24 Church Office Closes noon 4:30 Candlelighting Service 7:30 Händel's Messiah Concert THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25 Christmas Church Office Closed 12:00 Christmas Day Dinner FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26 Church Building Closed SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27 12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour Kwanzaa	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30 6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31 Church Office Closes noon New Year's Eve
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FOR MORE Adult Religious Education and Opportunities/Events Dec./Jan. see pages 8-10

Credits & Guidelines

Members are encouraged to submit articles to *Community Connections*. The submission deadline is typically the first Wednesday of the month prior to issue date. Submissions can be emailed to info@ccny.org or hand delivered to the Church. Articles submitted are subject to proofing and editing for clarity, brevity, grammar, punctuation, spelling and content.

SAVE THE DATE ~ QUARTERLY CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, January 25, 12:45 pm

Plan to attend our quarterly Congregational Meeting. All members who joined prior to October 26, 2014, and have made a "financial contribution of record" are eligible to vote.

Please contact Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator, if you have any questions.



FUND FOR HOLIDAY GREENS

Each holiday season, our worship space is transformed with fragrant pine, bright red poinsettias, all bathed in the glow of candlelight.

And in the Assembly Hall stands a Christmas tree decorated with beautiful ornaments, many of them handmade by the children.

You can help make this traditional beauty possible by making a contribution to the HOLIDAY GREENS.

All contributions will be acknowledged in the Community Connections.

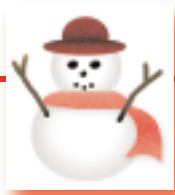
YES, I would like to support the HOLIDAY GREENS.

Name: _____

Dedication (if desired) _____

Return to Community Church of NY, 40 East 35th Street, New York, N.Y. 10016

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____
(please mark envelope "Greens")



Events Calendar for January 2015

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1
New Year's Day

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2
Church Building Closed

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3
10:45 First Saturday Feeding
12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani
8:00 People's Voice Café

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4
9:30 Choir Rehearsal
9:45 UN Global Affairs Cmte
11:00 Morning Worship
11:00 Sunday School
12:15 Fellowship Hour

MONDAY, JANUARY 5
6:00 Buildings & Grounds

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6
6:00 Yoga with Nafisa Degani
7:00 Streetsingers

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7
6:30 Gallery35

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8
7:00 Secular Humanist Book Club

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9
6:30 Anti Racism Team

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10
12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani
8:00 People's Voice Café

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11
9:30 Choir Rehearsal
11:00 Morning Worship
11:00 Sunday School
12:15 Fellowship Hour
12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal
1:15 Resistance Cinema

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13
6:00 Yoga with Nafisa
7:00 Streetsingers

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14
6:00 Church Council Potluck
6:30 Church Council Meeting

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15
7:30 UU Christian Fellowship

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16
7:00 Esperanto Society
6:30 Anti Racism Team

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17
12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani
8:00 People's Voice Café

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18
9:30 Choir Rehearsal
11:00 Morning Worship
11:00 Sunday School
12:15 Fellowship Hour
12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal
1:15 Resistance Cinema

MONDAY, JANUARY 19
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Church Office Closed

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20
6:00 Yoga with Nafisa
7:00 Streetsingers

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21
6:00 Finance Committee

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22
7:30 UU Christian Fellowship

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24
12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25
9:30 Choir Rehearsal
9:45 UN Global Affairs
11:00 Morning Worship
11:00 Sunday School
12:15 Fellowship Hour
12:45 **Congregational Quarterly Meeting**

MONDAY, JANUARY 26
6:00 Studying Humanism

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27
2:00 Social Tea
6:00 Yoga with Nafisa
7:00 Streetsingers

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28
6:00 Board of Trustees

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30
6:00 Green Sanctuary Solar Solar

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31
12:30 Yoga with Nafisa Degani
8:00 People's Voice Café

Rev. Bruce Southworth, Senior Minister
Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education
Gerald A. Brown, Director of Music
Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator
Rev. Dr. Orlanda Brugnola, Affiliate Minister



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Unitarian Universalist
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ISSUE: SIXTY THREE
Here At Community, Opportunities, Calendars
and much more...
Deadline for February/March issue due January 7, 2014